

Magazine

Terminal damage The human cost of 50 years of expansion at Heathrow



Weekend

For richer or poorer What's the price of wedded bliss in the Nineties?



No 2,978

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Major: I will win general election

DONALD MACINTYRE and NICHOLAS TIMMINS

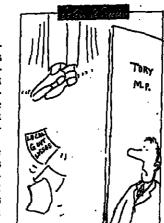
An unbowed John Major yesterday declared that the Tories would still win the general election – despite the second worst defeat in local government his-tory inflicted on his party. The Prime Minister pledged to let Parliament run its full course before going to the country.

Mr Major, convinced that the

threat to his own leadership is now lifted, said: "We have another year of this Parliament left. I went the whole five years in the last Parliament and I won let the people judge us on what we have done at the end of our term of office when we will lay before them all the

things we have achieved."

As Tory strategists absorbed the shock of losing 567 council seats in every part of the country. Mr Major firmly blamed the "pain" inflicted by the "difficult economic decisions" he had taken for a rout which wiped his party out in 20 local authorities wicluding one-time strongholds like Basildon, the Thatcherite bastion. Peterborough, the political base of Dr Brian Mawhinney, the Conservative Party chairman, and Cherwell, in the green heart of Oxfordshire. The result put a record 210 councils under Labour control, and in 20 councils the remaining Conservative councillors erament, outstripping the Conwere completely wiped out, servatives in both numbers of leading Frank Dobson, Labour's local government spokesman, to dub them "Toryfree zones. These included



not just traditional Labour northern strongholds but councils such as Oxford, Lincoln, Harlow, Stevenage, Hastings and Slough.

SWINGOMETER

The Liberal Democrats

Full results: page 6 Leading article: page 14

traditional Tory heartlands such as Tunbridge Wells, Woking, Wokingham and Hastings. They consolidated their position as the second party in local govcouncillors and councils controlled, and raised their share of the vote on last year's local

The main consolation for the Conservatives was that Labour's lead in terms of the

share of the vote fell from 21 per

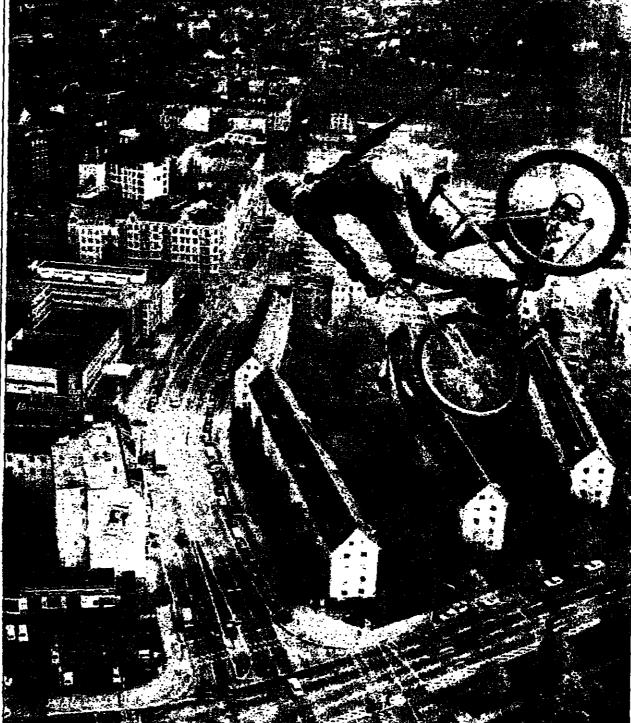
cent last year to 16 per cent this on the BBC's analysis - underpinning the repeated warning of the Labour leader, Tony Blair, to his party not to be complacent. They also retained control of all four councils they were defending, although in Runnymede they did so only on the strength of the Mayor's casting

Paddy Ashdown said the results - seven council gains, a record number of councillors and a rise on last year in share of the vote - gave the Liberal Democrats "the best general election launch pad we have ever had".

His party had beaten the Consevatives "comprehensively into third place" in local government. "We are winning where we need to win to beat gained seven councils - taking the Conservatives and we have their total to 55 - including once become the opposition to Labour where they govern had-ly in northern cities," he said, citing Manchester and Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Tony Blair said the results "excellent for new Labour" and "spectacularly bad for the Conservatives" who were able ony to "scratch around for the odd piece of statistical comfort".

He accused the Tories of reacting with complacency and arrogance to the results that Labour, despite the scale of its gains, pointedly eschewed. TURN TO PAGE 2 Where there are wheels, there's a way



Trick cyclist: A German stuntman, Jochen Schweizer, making a bungee jump on his mountain bike from the Hamburg television tower yesterday. He was advertising his own bungee jumping centre

Photograph: Michael Probst/AP Photograph: Michael Probst/AP

Do you really

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See voucher on page 2

Weekend Why there's more to William Morris than fruity wallpapaper

Six years after the Booker prize, has AS Byatt lost the plot?

Travel: survivor's guide to the delights of Greece

Zoe Wanamaker: portrait of the actress as a dog

Magazine The teenagers who run their own parliament

Why this is the moment for asparagus

UN report says Israel slaughter was deliberate

DAVID USBORNE New York

The bombardment of a United Nations peace-keeping camp in southern Lebanon by Israeli forces last month was calculated to ensure not only that the Tamp itself was struck but also that the shells would fall just in front of its entrance to ensure maximum civilian casualties, a draft UN report charges.

The claim, which threatens to spark a diplomatic storm over the conduct of Israeli commanders during last month's conflict in Lebanon, is contained in a first draft of a report completed for the UN Secretary-General. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, by his military adviser, General Frank Van Kappen.

"This is the most devastating item in his report," a senior UN official confirmed last night. "It seems that they knew where most of the civilians were and aimed for that area."

The UN refused last night to reveal any details of the report's content and insisted that it was still subject to changes by General Van Kappen. The truth is that it is not ready yet." Sylvana Fou. the UN's spokeswoman

The UN facility at Qana, which served as the headquarters of a Filian battalion of peace-keepers in the area, was destroyed by Israeli shells on 18 April it was crammed with Lebanese refugees and more to the report itself.

ي المان المان

than 100 were killed. It appears that when the bombardment started most of the civilians were gathered just outside the entrance.

While it was widely known that General Van Kappen had concluded that the camp had been deliberately targeted in the attack, his charge that the shells were even more carefully aimed to hit the greatest number of civilians adds another powerful dimension to his conclusions.

revelation that Hizbollah guerrillas who had been firing Katyusha rockets into Israeli territory from a placement close to the UN camp had been running in and out of its boundary and using it as a hiding place. For this reason, it appears, the Israeli commanders considered the camp a fair target. Moroever, General Van Kap-

pen reportedly suggests that the Fijian commanders were fully aware of the guerrillas'

Diplomats said they expected Mr Boutros-Ghali to offer an oral briefing on the General's findings to the UN Security Council on Monday afternoon. Israel has been given until noon on Monday to offer fresh evidence contradicting General Van Kappen. Failing that, his report is expected to stand as now

It is unclear what will happen

BUSINESS COMMENT 14, 15 CROSSWORD 2,28 GAZETTE 16

SHARES SPORT 21-28 UNIT TRUSTS 17 WEATHER 2

Thousands are addicted to lottery, Camelot admits

Camelot, the National Lottery operator, admitted yesterday that thousands of people have become addicted to the game. Louise White, Camelot's public affairs manager, told delegates to a Scottish conference on the lottery: "Socially there have been obvious areas of concern, particularly with regard to addiction and under-

age playing."
The Methodist Church wel-comed the admission as "an acknowledgement of reality". Speaking in Edinburgh, Ms White added: "The addiction Mitigating the evidence against Israel, however, is the problem does exist. There is undoubtedly a small percentage

of players who are unfortunately spending more than they should on the lottery." Ms White agreed later at a news conference that even a tiny percentage of the playing population could mean there were

many thousands of addicts. Her comments came on the eve of today's rollover draw which carries an estimated jackpot of £20 million. But the main cause for concern, she said, were the Instants scratch-

David Decks, co-ordinating secretary on church and social matters for the Methodists, said: "We have said from the very beginning that the intro-duction of Instants has brought to the National Lottery a way Oflot, the National Lottery of gambling which is known to be compulsive."

Methodists have called for

the abolition of scratchcards, but short of that they want the minimum age for players to be raised from 16 to 18 and television advertising to be banned. Leading clerics from all

denominations are united over their concerns surrounding the lottery and a group represent-ing the Council of Churches of Britain and Ireland has already met Virginia Bottomley, the National Heritage Secretary, to voice their fears.

Gambiers' Anonymous would not be drawn on the controversy, but a spokesman for

regulator, said: "The Director General has a duty not to license any game which he considers will contribute to excessive play. He has not licensed any such game." Seven scratchcard surveys, involving 13,000 people, had been carried out Oflor's behalf, but findings to date

"The picture is becoming that there is no evidence of addiction in this country," said the spokesman. "Oflot has discussed the possibility of addiction with Gamblers' Anonymous and other counselling groups and asked to be advised of any information."

Big chill for the bank holiday

minute rush to head off

somewhere warmer this week-

end," said Keith Betton, head

section

TWO

The bank holiday started in pre-weather in the south. It will stay dictable fashion yesterday with packed airports, jams on roads to the coast and the prospect of miserable weather.

An Arctic chill blowing in from the North Sea promises temperatures no higher than 10C across England and Wales. Scotland has been warned to brace itself for wintry showers.

to start cold and frosty with showers developing to put a damper on outdoor activities. The outlook for tomorrow and Monday is slightly more op-timistic, with rain in the north and bright and mainly dry

Today's weather is expected

Agents. "Spain and Portugal are

avourite destinations and many people are also taking a city With weather like that to look forward to, around 250,000 break, with Paris, Amsterdam, Venice and Rome popular." British sunseekers fled yesterday for foreign hotspots. For those stuck at home, motoring organisations warned of serious

Ferry company Stena said it was carrying about 100,000 passengers on its continental routes congestion over the weekend and about 50,000 on its Irish Sea even though cones have been crossings, while the AA said it removed and roadworks susexpected nearly five million pended on many main routes. drivers to hit the road over the With the weather so un-Bank Holiday weekend. pleasant there has been a last-Last year's May Day week-

end, which featured celebrations for the 50th anniversary of VE Day, was greeted by temperatures up to 28C (82F).

IN BRIEF

Boy sent back

A ten-year-old Zulu boy was heading for South Africa after his white foster mother's attempt to keep him in Britain

Land-mine decision

The UN Inhumane Weapons Convention conference ended without a total ban on anti-personnel land mines Page 10



of corporate affairs at the Association of British Travel ARTS 9 BOOKS 11-13 COUNTRY 7 GARDENING 8 LISTINGS 26 MONEY 22-25 PROPERTY 21 REVIEWS 10 SHOPPING 4-6 TRAVEL 14-19 TV & RADIO 27,28

need 50p more than he does? 50p a da, won't get you very far But use it to sponsor a child in need and it could go a lot luther than Just £15 a month helps us provide clean water, health care, basic education, seeds and tools for growing lood ... all the things that could make life better not just for one child, but everyone in the community. in return, we'll send you a photo of the child you sponsor and regular progress reports from our held workers. You will receive messages from the child and write if you wish. That way, you not only see your money working, you'll feel really involved. Could you ionestly speng 50p any betier? Please sponsor a child today. Tres, I would fine to sponsor a child and enclose my first complication ☐ Can't sponsor a child now, but enclose a gift of: ☐ CCO ☐ Make chaquate(Fils payable to ACTIONAID, and sent to ACTIONAID, FRESPOSI, BS-668, Chard, Somerset TAZO 1871.

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HIV kit falsely cleared four victims of virus

Four people who tested negative for HIV with a faulty testing kit have been told they are infected with the Aids virus, the Department of Health revealed

No details of the four individuals have been released, but efforts to trace their sexual contacts to offer them HIV tests are now underway.

The confirmation of the false negatives follows the re-testing of more than 20,000 blood samples tested for HIV between July 1995 and March this year, with the IMX HIV 1/23rd gen-

Sir Kenneth Calman, the Chief Medical Officer, said in a statement: "I would like to extend my sympathies to [the fourl individuals in what must

be a very difficult situation." The IMX kit, one of several used by the NHS, was withdrawn from sale worldwide on 25 March by its manufacturers, Abbott Laboratories Ltd in Chicago, after some European laboratories reported inaccurate results with it. A doctor in Portsmouth was among the first to query its reliability when a patient he knew to have full-

Peter rodgers

and NIC CICUTT!

Royal Insurance and Sun

Alliance yesterday announced

a surprise £6bn merger to

produce the UK's largest

general insurer in a move that

vill cost 5,000 jobs over the next

two years. The new Royal Sun

Alliance will be Britain's largest

household insurer with about a

fifth of the market, and in car

insurance will come a close

The agreed merger is the

biggest reshuffling of the pack

second to Direct Line.

News of the kit's withdrawal ple with a very high number of was leaked at the start of the Easter bank holiday when clinics and GP surgeries were closed, leaving thousands of people - initial estimates suggested that up to 40,000 were at risk - desperate for more information and advice.

Aids charities were inundated with calls, and health ministers were severely criticised for sitting on information about the faulty kits for a week as the Department of Health tried to organise re-testing facilities before making an announcement.

The Department said that since July last year a total of 23,620 blood samples in the UK had tested negative using the IMX kit. All available stored samples - 20,900 - had been retested and four of the negative results found to be wrong.

Stored samples were not available to re-test the remaining 2,720 negative results. About 800 of these were done in NHS clinics and the people concerned had been invited to provide fresh blood samples. The remaining 1,920 samples were provided for private tests, mainly for insurance purposes and visa applications on behalf of people considered to be at low risk of HIV infection.

It is believed that only peo-

5,000 jobs go in merger

aimed at cutting costs at a time

combining forces to expand in

overseas markets. The City saw

a new wave of consolidation in

the UK market, encouraging

speculation that names such as

GRE, Commercial Union and

General Accident could be

Most of the job losses will

come from the merged group's

28,000 UK employees, and the

cuts are part of a plan to save

Roger Taylor, the £375,000-

£175m a year from 1998.

caught up in takeover fever.

of fierce competition, as well as staff cuts would be voluntary

the merger plan as the start of ry redundancies.

antibodies to HIV in their blood were at risk of testing negative instead of positive with the IMX test. Antibody status may be related to the stage of infection with people only recently exposed to HIV and those on the verge of Aids being most likely to fit this profile.

Tom Lawson, spokesman for the Terrence Higgins Trust, said the Government had done well to carry out the re-testing of samples quickly. However, he said there were lessons to be learned about the Department's co-ordination with journalists and support groups during a public health crisis.

"Four people who re-tested positive is four people too many. We have to ensure nothing like this is going to happen again," Mr Lawson said. "It must be enormously distressi must be enormously distressing for the people concerned. This is a terrible way to learn that you are HIV positive.

A spokesman for Abbott Laboratories Ltd in Chicago said last night that more than 2.5 million tests had been carried out worldwide with the IMX kit. The company had, until yesterday, been aware of one confirmed false negative in the UK and three others in Spain and France.

deputy chairman, said most

and through normal turnover,

but did not rule out compulso-

Roger Lyons, general secre-

tary of Manufacturing Science

Finance - the insurance indus-

try union - attacked the jobs

threat. "We are seeking urgent

discussions. There is certainly

no 'feelgood factor' amongst

insurance staff today." Michael

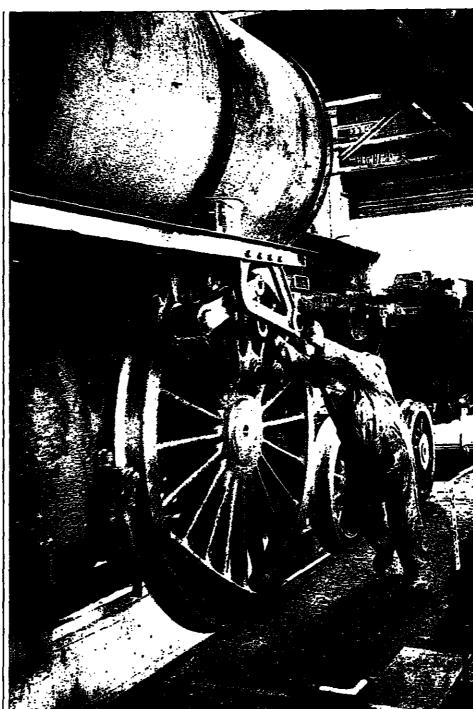
Meacher, Labour's employ-

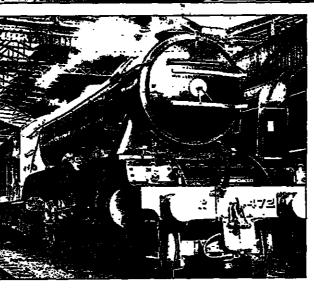
ment spokesman, called for an

Office of Fair Trading inquiry

Full story, page 18

Comment, page 19





Scotsman to fly once more

A volunteer at work (above) on the legendary Flying Scotsman, which is being restored to its original condition (left) under the supervision of a new owner, businessman Dr Tony Marchington. The project - carried out by volunteer enthusiasts - will take another two years to complete, but the locomotive - designed by Sir Nigel Gresley and built in 1923 - should be back

Photograph: Alison McDougall

on the rails in 1998.

Vets are urged to boycott cattle cull

The British Veterinary Association last night urged vets to boycott the disposal of up to 21,000 cattle a week, plunging the government scheme to re-store public confidence in beef into deeper chaos.

BVA chairman Bob Stevenson opposes the use of local veterinary inspectors (LVIs) in authenticating the date of birth of animals – documentation vital for the running of the scheme. The Intervention Board, overseeing the contro-versial cull, confirmed that vets were crucial to its success.

In an open letter to the Vererinary Record, published today, Mr Stevenson objects to the fact that veterinary surgeons are expected to approve animals for slaughter without seeing them. "It is the BVA's belief that this scheme undermines the signa-ture of the veterinarian," he writes. "The BVA would have been happy to accept a scheme whereby LVIs were asked to do a veterinary job, namely, visit the farm, see the animals, check the breed and eartag numbers and correlate this information with the farm records."

Mr Stevenson says vets could be prosecuted if documentation proves to be incorrect. "Some arm records are notoriously unreliable. As presented, we question why the LVI should be involved at all. The BVA cannot agree to the scheme as presented and we are advising our

members not to take part in it." A BVA member told the Independent that the organisation expected large numbers of vers to back the boycott. "The Government is turning veterinary surgeons into office boys."

A Ministry of Agriculture spokesman described the development as "not helpful".

Meanwhile the cull of cattle over 30 months old still does not appear to have got under way despite assurances earlier in the week from the Agriculture Minister, Douglas Hogg, that it was operating. The National Parmers Union, the Licensed Auctioneers Association and Meat and Livestock Commission said it was not likely to start until after the Bank Holiday.

IN BRIEF

Package blown up in Barclays scare Two controlled explosions were carried out yesterday on a suspect package found outside a branch of Barclays. The package formed out later to be a bag of rubbish, but a bank spokesman said: "You cannot

take any chances. The two detonations were carried out by explosives experts as fire and ambulance services were called to the scene. Roadsurrounding the bank in Webridge, Surrey, were closed as the area sealed off.

An extortionist calling himself Mardi Gra has posted or planted 25 devices to Barclays over the last 16 months. In an incident two weeks ago a device exploded outside a branch in Ealing, west London.

Runaway captured A convicted child molester who

absconded from a secure hospital unit a week ago has been arrested at a seaside boarding house. Humberside police said Peter Dossena, 64, was arrested at Caernarfon, north Wales, after absconding while walking in the grounds of the hospital near Hull as part of his rehabilitation, Dossena, who has spent 27 years in Broadmoor, was collected by hospital staff.

Paper apologises

The Catholic Herald apologised for running an article accusing the late Archbishop of Liv pool of driving people away from the church. Harry Coen. the paper's assistant editor, said he had made an error of judgment in using the piece by the novelist Alice Thomas Ellis, which he admitted had caused distress. Ms Ellis claimed Archbishop Derek Worlock, who died of cancer in February, had caused a slump in Liverpool mass attendances.

Crisis on yacht

Dwindling supplies may force a British yachtswoman to abandon her bid to become the first woman to circle the globe nonstop against prevailing winds. Samantha Brewster, 28, is nearing the Cape of Good Hope after an 11,000-mile haul through the Antarctic Ocean in temperatures as low as -20C. She is hattling technical and equipment problems caused by howling southern winds, which have torn ropes and sails.

Fire victim has baby A mother is fighting for her life after giving birth to a daughter almost four days after being badly injured in a house blaze. Debbie Garbutt, 32, suffered 3) per cent burns in the fire which killed her four-year-old daughter Jade on Monday. Doctors at Pinderfields Hospital, Wakefield, West Yorkshire, delivered her unborn child by Caesarian section. The 3lbs 3oz premature baby is stable in the neo-natal intensive care unit at

Leeds General Infirmary. Divorce law delay

Ireland's Supreme Court reserved judgment on a legal challenge to last year's referendum decision allowing a divorce law to be passed. Anti-divorce campaigner Des Hanafin appealed against a High Court ruling rejecting his claim that the narrow referendum vote for divorce was influenced by government promotional spending later declared anti-constitutional. The five judges will deliver their verdict later this month.

Hospital death fall

A 12-year-old girl has died after falling from a hospital escalator. Stacey Newey, of Greenwich, south-east London, was rushed to Greenwich District Hospital's casualty department with serious head injuries, and died soon afterwards. A spokesman for Greenwich Healthcare Trust said "Police, who aren't treating Stacey's death as suspicious, believe she was playing on the escalator but lost her grip and fell off, falling several floors."

Seen and herd

Pictures of cows are being painted on a road through grassland near Stroud, Gloucestershire, to warn drivers that cattle roam freely. They replace the traditional upright warning signs on poles, which the animals rubbed against and demolished.

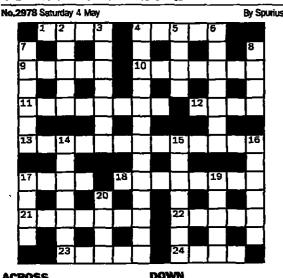
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concise crossword



ACROSS

Exalted (4) Synthetic material (5) 10 Small settlement (7) 11 Selfless behaviour (S) 12 Slender (4)

13 Catering establishment (9,4) 17 Irish parliament (4) 18 Applause (8) 21 Adage (7) 22 Snow leopard (5)

23 Before time (5) 24 Land measure (4)

Creck (5) Inhibitions (4-3) Where voting takes place at Westminster (8,5)

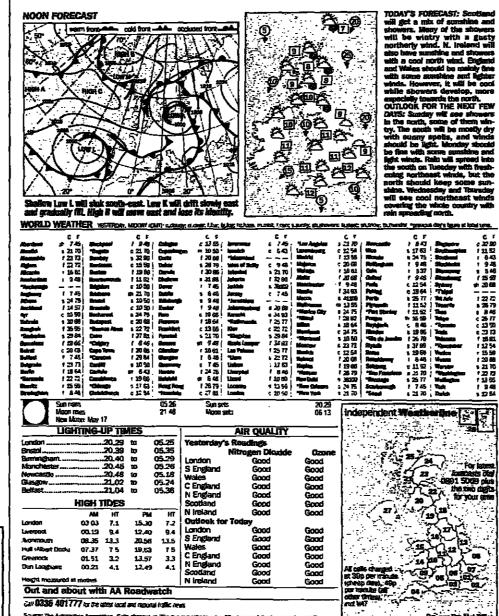
Unpleasant (4) Windpipe (7) Whole (6) Age (4) Fat (7) 15 Type of pudding (7) 16 Birds of prey (6) 17 Information (4)

20 River in NE England (4) Sciutica to yesterday's Concise Crossword:

ACROSS: 1 Brighten. 5 Rock (Brighton Rock), 9 Lie-in, 10 Virtual. 11 Patri-archy, 14 Stanging match, 16 Cerebelham. 20 Against. 21 Point, 22 Lynn. 23 Platonic. DOWN: 1 Bell-push. 2 Inert gas. 3 Hanci, 4 Environmental, 6 Opus. 7 Kilt, 8 Graham, 12 Stallion, 13 Thematic. 15 Greene, 17 Expat. 18 Wall, 19 Barn.

Notes

Weather forecast



"If was like coming nome, occaviour of the 1976 Euro-have to amend legislation." she said. "When I realised that toos breached the 1976 Euro-have to amend legislation."

Sacked jails chief gets £220,000

Sacked prisons chief Derek Lewis yesterday accepted a £220,000 pay-off from the Home Office after a lengthy legai battle.

The former director-general of the Prison Service was fired from his £125,000-a-year job by the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, in the wake of the damning Learmont report into the escape of dangerous inmates from Parkburst jail. He is also understood to have been paid costs of around £50,000.

The settlement falls short, however, of Mr Lewis's original claim for £300,000.

A Home Office statement confirmed that legal wrangling over compensation dating back to last October had ended in agreement. "The Home Office

that he was "very pleased" with the settlement. It is understood that he has agreed to drop his industrial tribunal claim for unfair dismissal as part of the deal. The payment is expected to be formally en-

dorsed at a High Court bearing

sation following his dismissal without notice."

Mr Lewis only for the loss of

earnings and other benefits

which he would have obtained

had he been allowed to serve a

full notice period and for other incidental expenses."

Mr Lewis said in a statement

"The payment compensates

Major shrugs off poll rout

FROM PAGE 1 This was not a general election," he said, "and we take nothing whatever for grant-

But Mr Major said; "People have, for as far back as you can go since the second World War. chosen by-elections and local council elections to protest against the government of the

day," he told ITN.
"There are millions and millions of people who will go out and vote Conservative at the

next General Election who chose not to do so yesterday."
Mr Major was said by aides to be confident that the moment of maximum danger to his lead-ership had now passed-not least

firth cerum ares and passports: | minimum ---

provement to 27 per cent in the Tories' still dismal vote share since last year. While the whole thrust of Mr Major's remarksindicated that

the essentials of his party's course between now and the election was in place, that was sharply questioned by his right wing critics. John Redwood will publish his own alternative manifesto after urging the Government to take heed of the concerns of Tory supporters who Mr Major acknowledged had "sat in their hands".

A 30,000-word document, called Action Not Words, will give substance to the policies Mr Redwood is urging Mr Major to adopt, on the health service, taxation and Europe.

Zulu boy flies home after last plea fails

MICHAEL STREETER

A ten-year-old Zulu boy was heading for South Africa last night after a last attempt by his white foster mother to keep him in Britain was rejected by the Government and the Court of

Campaigners for the boy and the white woman had hoped the Attorney General Sir Nicholas Lyell would let him stay while appeals were made to the European Commission on Human Rights in Strasbourg.

But in an unprecedented move the Attorney rejected a specific request from the President of the Commission, known as a Rule 36 indication. to suspend the order for the boy

A spokesman for Sir Nicholas said it was the first time the Government had turned down a Rule 36 indication, but this was because it was "unprecedented" for such a request to be made in proceed-

ings involving private parties.

The British Government is not a party to these proceedings. When it is a matter in which the Government is concerned, it is our invariable policy to comply, he said. However, the Commission's decision to intervene in the case showed their deep concern about possible infringement of the boy's and the woman's "family" rights .

The Government's decision, backed by the Court of Appeal, meant that the boy was reunited with his natural mother at the offices of the Official Solicitor in central London. He was due to leave on a flight back to his native Transvaal last night or some time today.

Public relations consultant Max Clifford, who has worked without payment for the boy and his foster mother, said: "I saw them the other night and they are both heartbroken by what is happening. He is a very

bright young lad.
"He had a farewell party and one of the girls from his school had a card with a picture

of a judge with horns." Mr Clifford added: "As far as I know the fight will still go on

The boy, who cannot be named while in this country, was brought to the UK by the white woman, a British citizen with an Afrikaans background. She wanted him to be adopted as a member of her family and to live with her in Maida Vale, London, and be educated at a leading British school.

worked as a housekeeper and namy for the British woman, initially agreed to the adoption but later changed her mind.

Earlier court hearings were told that to get around apartheid laws, the white woman had taken responsibility for the boy when he was an infant so that he could stay in her home, while his mother had her quarters elsewhere.

When the woman decided to come to Britain in 1992, the boy's parents signed a document to go too. But when his natural mother was later questioned by social workers she said she wanted her son back and did not want him to be adopted.

Last week in a private hear-ing the Law Lords backed an earlier Court of Appeal order to send the boy back to South Africa and said that the boy, who has forgotten how to speak Zulu, would be better off with his natural narents. Last night spokesman Max Clifford said the foster mother was "absolutely devastated" by her parting with the ten-year-old.

It was a very emotional



to let him live here."

His natural mother, who

farewell and she is naturally distraught," he said. "She is going to carry on the fight howevershe wants him back."

Polly Toynbee, page 15



Riding high: Canoeist John-Paul Ealock, based at the Twy-y-Felin training centre, caught taking a wave while practising for the "Cuervo Bitches Rodeo", an international canoeing competition being held off the Pembrokeshire coast at Ramsey Sound this weekend

Photograph: Rob Stratton

Al Fayed buys Viva! radio for £3m

MARIANNE MACDONALD Media Correspondent

Mohammed Al Fayed has bought the troubled women's radio station Viva Radio for £3m in a bid to expand his nascent media empire, it was announced yesterday.
...Viva! 963 was Britain's first

radio station for women, launched last July by PR guru Lvnne Franks, Debbie Owen, literary agent and wife of Lord Owen, and Labour Party fundraiser Barbara Follett.

It plunged into trouble after it failed to pull in its target 400,000 listeners and has strug-gled with money and reception

problems — across half its London area - which made it effectively unviable.

In January it was forced to make cutbacks and has been operating since on a skeleton staff from its offices near Marble Arch, west London.

Its latest blow came in March when RAJAR's official listening figures showed it was the least popular in London, with less than a third of the following of stations like Spectrum, aimed at ethnic minorities.

In all it was pulling only 59,000 listeners for around 20 minutes a day, research which may have finally persuaded its owners, Golden Rose Com-

However, Golden Rose, which also owns another troubled station, Jazz FM, must now

gain shareholder approval for the deal. Richard Wheatly, chief executive of Golden Rose, said: We welcome Liberty's involvement in the London radio market with their acquisition of

Vival. The resources which Liberty will be able to apply to Viva! I feel confident will, following an anticipated relaunch, result in success."

Stewart Steven, former editor of London's Evening Standard, now the chairman of Liberty, described the purchase if their male partner did not like

the verge of a sudden explosion

in its range.
The edible dormouse was

brought to Tring, Hertfordshire

of Viva as "a small but significant building block in the company's plan to create a new and independent media company in

Under the terms of the licence Liberty is obliged to continue to aim the station at women aged 24 to 44, and it says that Viva! will stay on air while relaunch plans are finalised.

It will not be an easy task to turn Viva! around after an almost blanket thumbs down to the new concept of radio for women. Even Viva's own initial research showed that women were surprisingly unliberated when it came to radio listening:

Their research also showed that women would not listen to a station which smacked of feminism or was "anti-men".

The bid by Mr Al Payed, the owner of Harrods, follows his recent acquisition of the defunct Punch magazine for £500,000. He adds Viva! to his media company, Liberty Publishing, af-ter having been foiled in his at-

tempts to acquire London News Radio, Today newspaper which Rupert Murdoch chose instead to close — the Daily Express and The Observer, for which he offered the Guardian Media Group £20m.

Inspector of schools is accused of bias

FRAN ABRAMS **Education Correspondent**

The Chief Inspector of Schools was forced to defend himself against accusations of political bias yesterday as local authorities released details of a report on reading standards which they said had been given a negative spin.

Inspectors who carried out the inquiry into reading in the London boroughs of Tower Hamlets, Islington and Southwark had had the final draft of their work changed.

The charge was denied by the chief inspector, Chris Woodhead, who said the data in both versions was consistent.

"If it is political to write as clearly as we can about the fact that significant numbers of children from our most disadvantaged communities are not learning to read then I would like somebody to explain what the word 'political' means," he

Reading scores collected during the inspection showed that eight out of 10 pupils were below average, but in government tests only three out of 10 had failed to reach expected levels. The inspectors' results were in the report but the discrepancy was not highlighted.

The boroughs, which were sent a copy of the report, said that a sentence which said reading was "well organised in three out of five classes" was altered to say that "weaknesses... affected the teaching of reading in two out of five classe

Where reading had been classed as "satisfactory or hetter in approximately two thirds of the lessons" it was now "unsatisfactory or poor" in one

A supportive paragraph which said teachers were overwhelmingly pragmatic and nondoctrinaire had been removed.

Manager's face like a ball said Japanese boss

KATE WATSON-SMYTH

A manager demonstrated to an industrial tribunal yesterday how his Japanese boss kicked an imaginary ball into the air as he told him that his face resembled

Cliff Wakeman, 42, is seeking compensation for unfair dismissal and racial discrimination from his former em-ployers, the Tokyo-based Quick Corporation financial information company.

He showed the tribunal how Noriaki Nakajima, joint senior general manager of the company's London branch, pulled at his cheeks, saying: "You have a strange skin colour."

Mr Wakeman, formerly a £52,000-a-year deputy general

strate the gesture Mr Nakajima made as he told him: "Your face looks like a rock or a football." Mr Wakeman, from Whitstable, Kent, told the tribunal

that Quick's Japanese directors

manager in charge of comput-

er development, then kicked

one foot into the air to demon-

in Britain were running a "conspiracy" to prevent the advancement of his career because he was English.

"It was never possible for an English manager to reign over a Japanese manager," he said. The directors liked to have Jananese staff in control "not so

much for business operations, but for their own comfort". Another senior employee with 20 years' experience told the tribunal he earned three times less than lower-ranking Japanese colleagues. Ashok Solanki, aged 44, from Edgware, London, an operations manag-

er, said "the difference be-

tween British and Japanese

salaries smacked of racial discrimination". "It was beyond belief that Quick could have been treating us with such atter contempt. I was a long-standing manager and was paid under half the net income of even lower ranking Japanese managers and nonmanagement Japanese staff."

Mr Solanki, who was made redundant after six years at

Quick, Mr Wakeman and Stewart Mitchell, aged 45, from Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire, all claim racial discrimination and unfair dismissal. Quick Corporation has admit-ted unfair discrimination but de-

nied racial discrimination. Mr Solanki fought back tears as he described how he worked 18-hour days and weekends because he was told that commitment and loyalty would advance his career.

"I was told that Ouick looked after their staff and at my interview they said have you ever heard of a Japanese company making people redundant?". I expected to retire with them and although my previous job had paid more, I was excited by working for an international Japanese company with a long-term productive career and the prospect of never being made redundant."

But Mr Solanki said he was

repeatedly passed over for promotion and a general management job was given to Japanese nationals with less experience.



nan: Said he

"I felt cheated and betraved life was shattered and in tatters

him and had no experience. The hearing continues.

 I had worked so hard for that company and could not bring myself to tell my wife."



is victim of a conspiracy

because I felt I had proved myself. It was clear that this was a master plan to evade providing general management positions to non-Japanese staff he said. in July 1994, Mr Solanki re-ceived a letter saying he was sur-plus to requirements. My whole

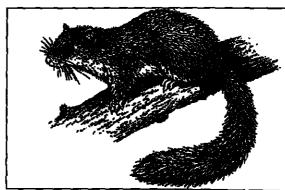
His £39,500-a-year job was given to Mr Tekase whom, Mr Solanki later discovered, was earning three times more than



from Hungary by one of the Rothschild family in 1902. Since then it has slowly spread through Chiltern woodlands in Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire and a little beyond. Sometimes it moves into house lofts in large numbers. where it will gnaw on woodwork, cable coverings and plastic garden furniture. It makes a strange, mechanical, high-pitched noise in the mating season and sounds surprisingly heavy-footed for a small, tree

> In woodlands and plantations it can strip the bank from young conifer trees, in much the is an introduced species. But a

dwelling mammal.



Protected: Edible dormouse is being moved illegally

same way the grey squirrel attacks broadleaved trees. "It causes considerable damage and it makes a hell of a noise," said Mike Render, forestry officer at Buckinghamshire Coun-

It is illegal to kill the creature under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 because it is endangered in its native central Europe. But under the same act. it is also illegal to move it around the country because it

mal Society, the county counorganisations found evidence that people are moving the edible dormouse. The society chairman Pat Morris says the animals were being released in Berkshire, near Oxford and in the New Forest, in Hampshire. "It is only a matter of time before the fat dormouse and its associated problems turn up in other parts of the country," he says in Mammal News.

survey organised by the Mam-

several other

Here comes the bride. (There goes

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Bingham tops contenders for **Chief Justice**

PATRICIA WYNN DAVIES Legal Affairs Editor

Sir Thomas Bingham, the Master of the Rolls, was yesterday emerging as a potential successor to the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor, whose illness with cancer is forcing him into early retirement.

As the head of the Court of Appeal's civil division since 1992, Sir Thomas, a relatively youthful 62 but with an already formidable reputation, was being tipped as one of the strongest candidates to become the most senior criminal judge in England & Wales.

The suggestion took some lawyers by surprise yesterday be-cause of Sir Thomas' long association with civil rather than criminal work, but this could be viewed as more than outweighed by his well-established authority and intellectual and

administrative ability.
The Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay, has already begun the process of consulting the High Court heads of division, of which Sir Thomas is one, senior Lord Justices of Appeal and some of the law lords over the

Sir Thomas Bingham, 62, the Master of the Rolls.

Admired for intellectual rigour

and pure reason. Made a QC

at 39. Caused near apoplexy

at the Bar in 1991 by sug-

gesting solicitors should an-

pear in higher courts. More

patrician than Lord Taylor.

Chief Justice among lawyers and certainly the only one to have made an impression on the

radical left, who view Lord Taylor as less liberal than is widely suggested, were grappling with a genuine and deep sadness about his predicament.

Fears were also being expressed about what some viewed as the most politically sensitive judicial appointment for a decade. Against the backdrop of the battle raging be-tween senior judges and Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, over his sentencing plans, it could be the ultimate test of the degree of trust and confidence that exists between yesterday. John Major and Lord Mackay. whom he must consult before making the final recommenda-

tion to the Queen.
The 59-year-old Court of
Appeal judge, Lord Justice
Rose, another widely-tipped candidate because of his broad criminal experience and (like Lord Taylor) Northern Circuit background, has been as outspoken on the Howard plans as his chief, and was branded succession to Lord Taylor, arguably the most popular Lord after he suggested that

Sir Christopher Rose, 59,

Has the kind of background -

Morecambe Grammar School, Leeds and Oxford Universities,

Northern Circuit - that stood Lord Taylor in good stead. Condemned Howard plans for

sentencing repeat rapists.

Court of Appeal Judge.

successors to Lord Taylor

second-time rapists would lead more rapists to kill their victims.

ider public.

Other suggestionsyesterday
Even barristers on the Bar's included Lord Justices Auld, Simon Brown, Mustill and [Paul] Kennedy. But Sir Thomas Bingham could be the most inspired choice. He has not shrunk from giving limited support for Michael Howard's sentencing reforms. He also backed Attorney General Sir Nicholas Lyell, not Sir Richard Scott, over public interest immunity.

For the Bar's radical wing, the law lord Lord Woolf, author of the Strangeways riot inquiry report, would be the dream appointment. But his shares did not appear to be rising

Left-of-centre barristers spotlighted what they see as an unprecedented attempt by the Government to politicise law and order. Patrick O'Connor, a criminal QC, said: "It is very worrying that this dying Conservative government, which has been deeply politicising issues of law and order and encountered very effective opposition from Lord Taylor, has the power to appoint a new Lord Chief Justice who will rule over us for the next 10 years."

Lord (Harry) Woolf, 63, a Law

While once a Treasury (Gov-

emment) counsel, would be a

radical's choice. But most of

his recommendations after

the Strangeways riots have

been ignored. Still involved in

review of civil justice system.



Wicket maiden: Sarah Harvey, of London auctioneer's Phillips, with prints and ties from the collection of the cricket commentator Brian Johnston, who died in 1994. The items, on show for a week, are part of a sale of cricket memorabilia next Saturday Photograph: Colin McKillop

Fan's early jail release 'undermines courts'

Prison chiefs were criticised by politicians, police and magis-trates last night for allowing Matthew Simmons, the soccer fan who was jailed for a week for attacking a lawyer in court, to walk free after serving less than 24 hours of his sentence.

Simmons, found guilty of provoking the infamous kungfu kick by footballer Eric Caniona at a match last year, left Highdown Prison, Sutton, Surrey, yesterday because gover-nors said he could not be kept in over the weekend. With automatic remission, Simmons should have been freed tomorrow, but prison chiefs said this was brought forward because, by law, inmates cannot be discharged at the weekend. The ruling was attacked by the Mag-

istrates' Association, who said McCann in the chest. Simmons could have been kept in for a second night under re-

cent Home Office guidelines. The 21-year-old was jailed for contempt of court on Thursday for launching himself at prosecutor Jeffrey McCann after he was found guilty at Croy-don Magistrates' Court of using threatening words and behav-iour to Cantona during a match between Manchester United and Crystal Palace at Selhurst Park. Cantona made his attack in response to the taunts.

Simmons, of Thornton Heath, south London, was fined £500 and banned from every football ground in Britain but as the guilty verdict was announced he leapt over a the public's confidence will be bench and appeared to kick Mr restored."

Lady Olga Maitland, the Tory MP, will table Commons estions next week about the situation. "This man displayed gross misbehaviour in court and should serve his full sen-tence," she said. "This is sending out entirely the wrong message by undermining the courts. We must examine our release procedures.

Chief Supt Brian Mackenzie, president of the Police Superintendents Association, condemned the way the criminal justice system was developing. "It will be causing a lot of concern and the sooner we can get sentencing straightened out and transparent, the sooner

'Loophole found' in speed camera law

Thousands of drivers could bave speeding convictions over-camera was admissible. have speeding convictions over-turned after the discovery of a legal loophole in existing legis-

lation, the RAC said yesterday. In a recent case, police speed camera evidence against a speeding motorist was deemed inadmissible because photographs were enlarged to make them more readable. Now the RAC believes thousands of other motorists convicted by cameras might be able to take advantage of the Joophole.

In the specific case at Jabridge Magistrates Court in Middlesex, a businessman was accused of exceeding a 60mph limit on the M25 in Surrey.

His solicitor successfully argued that some of the camera picture was enhanced to make

"This type of enhancement is

commonly used by police camera units throughout the country in an attempt to identify vehicles," said RAC head of campaigns Edmund King.

He went on: "Motorists concerned about their speeding prosecutions, where photographic enhancements were a factor, should in the case of fixed penalties contact the police force involved and, in court cases, contact the court involved to question the validity of their conviction."

The RAC said the confusion needed to cleared up because speeding was the biggest single cause of death and serious injury in road accidents, and it constantly campaigned for ourthe number plates more readable and that only evidence sistent enforcement of the law.

> There's a great deal going on

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she said. "When I realised that tors breached the 1976 Euro- have to amend legislation."

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Inspectors to crack down on 'weak' schools

FRAN ABRAMS Education Correspondent

One school in 10 will be labelled as "weak" under plans for changes to the inspection system published yesterday. Al-though healthy schools may only receive a visit once every six years, others will be seen by

inspectors every term until they

show an improvement In addition to the 2 per cent of schools labelled "failing" under the current system, inspectors will be asked to identify those with serious weaknesses so that they can be targeted for action. These are expected to make up another 8 per cent of the country's 24,000 schools.

In future the inspectors will concentrate on the quality of English, maths and science in primary schools and on those subjects plus another four, yet to be finalised, in secondary

The aim of the changes is to bring more flexibility to the inspection process, which currently works on a four-year cycle, and to take pressure off the inspection body, Ofsted, which is struggling to keep up with the cycle of primary inspections, due to be completed

Yesterday the Chief Inspector of Schools, Chris Woodhead, schools to have a say in the

the plans, which would come into effect for secondary schools next year and for primary schools the following year.

Schools which fail inspections are already subjected to special measures which include frequent visits by inspectors and the preparation of an action plan which must be approved by the Secretary of State for Education. If a school continues to fail, an education association can be sent in to take over and either improve standards or close the school.

In future, a larger number of schools with weaknesses will be subject to extra scrutiny. These weaknesses could include: low standards of teaching in four or more subjects or in more than a quarter of lessons; poor pupil behaviour, ineffective management, poor value for money, low attendance: or a high number of exclusions

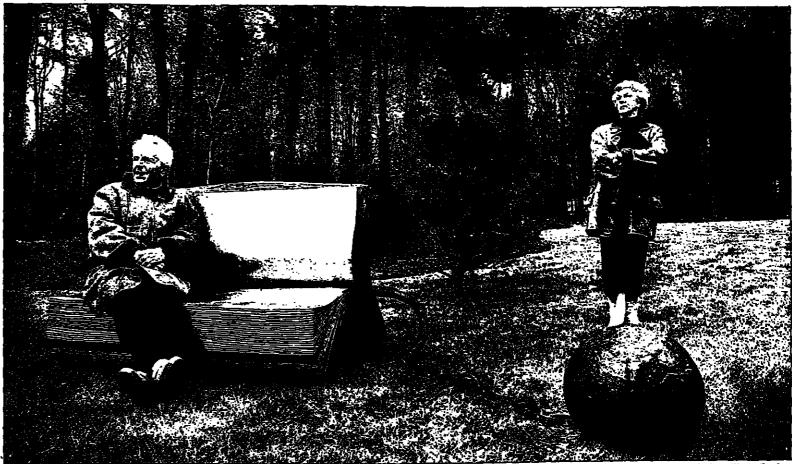
Schools which are not subjected to extra visits after their initial inspection may receive them later if their exam and test results or attendance levels fall, if exclusions rise or even if the head teacher changes.

Ofsted has yet to decide how to choose the four subjects which will be inspected in secondary schools in addition to maths. English and science. though one option is to allow

ably vary from one school to another, and could be based on exam results or earlier inspection findings.

Commenting on the plans to name more weak schools, Mr Woodhead said the aim was to help rather than to vilify. "Whatever the impact on the staff or the community, we must find out what is going on,"

Labour's education spokesman, David Blunkett, condemned the changes. "This is a major admission of failure by ministers and Ofsted," he said. The fact is that Ofsted missed its target for primary schools by a quarter in 1994-95 and has not recovered since. That is the main reason for this change."



at 'Sitting on History I' which was bought for Sculpture at Goodwood, their rolling displ arried to them by the 1996 National Arts Collections Fund Photograph Jane Bake

'Failed' teaching college faces uncertain future

FRAN ABRAMS

Lancaster University is considering the future of its teachertraining college after it became the first to fail an inspection of its primary school courses.

Ofsted, the national inspecbion body, found that some students at Charlotte Mason College in Cumbria lacked the levels of literacy and numeracy needed to teach maths and English. In particular they were weak in spelling, grammar and phonics, all of which are now considered central to the teach-

ing of reading. The college, which is part of the university but which is based in Ambleside, could be merged with the University College of Saint Martin in Lancaster, whose courses are accredited by the university.

The report is bound to have come as a significant blow to the university. The only other teacher-training course to fail was the secondary provision at the South Bank University in London, a former polytechnic. That course was closed shortly afterwards.

The Ofsted inspectors found courses at Charlotte Mason deficient in every area they reviewed. While a few students had a good grasp of the English national curriculum, too many had "limited and superficial" knowledge. In maths, some students were unable to teach effectively because of gaps in

their own knowledge.

A significant number of

Almost half of under-30s have

dabbled with drugs with young

whites overtaking Afro-Carib-

beans of the same age as the

biggest drug users, a report

found that while many 16 to 29.

year-olds have taken drugs at

some point, most claim they

have taken them merely on a

one-off basis or only occasion-

ally. One in four have taken

drugs in the past 12 months

while one in seven admit to

Cannabis is the most com-

The 1994 study, based on in-

monly used drug - and is twice

as popular among younger people than other drugs.

terviews with 10,000 people aged 16-59, gives a fascinating insight into drug use in faritain. Not surprisingly drug use declines with age. Remagers aged between 16 and 19 were

most likely to be users, with one

in five claiming to have taken

drugs in the past month against

The British Crime Survey

revealed yesterday.

being regular users.

Half of under-30s

have tried drugs'

sequence of lessons properly, the inspectors said, and in some cases the work set was poorly matched to the ability and interests of their pupils. The quality of children's learning was

poor as a result. A team of five inspectors visited the college for four days in June last year, with a repeat visit in November. They observed teaching practice and training sessions at the university for the 830 students, 780 of whom were on a foor-year undergraduate course and the rest on a oneyear postgraduate scheme.

Yesterday the university admitted that it needed either to make a substantial investment in the college or to merge it, and said that a decision would be made at the end of May. However, the majority of students had been found to be able to teach effectively and some changes had already been put in place to address the shortcomings of the courses, it said.

John Halstead, principal of the college, said the conclusions had been based on the weaknesses of a minority of students. Other aspects of work in the department had previously received good reports, he added, expressing disappointment that Ofsted had chosen to base its findings on a small proportion

of students.
"We have had massive support from ... the schools which employ our output. Getting on towards 100 schools have written in to say that their experience doesn't fit with that of the students were unable to plan a Ofsted inspectors," he said.

A breakdown of under 30s

who took stimulants at some

point found 14 per cent had

tried amphetamines or speed,

13 per cent poppers, 10 per cent

magic mushrooms, 9 per cent LSD and 6 per cent ecstasy.

Just 3 per cent of under 30s

had tried cocaine and less than

I per cent had ever experi-

mented with harder drugs like

et inner-cities or areas with large

numbers of young people were

more likely to have had contact

Other strong indicators included people who were heavy

drinkers, single, were away from

home a lot, out of work, or lived in a poorer household, the sur-

Afro-Caribbeans were more likely to use cannabis and crack than whites, who favoured

The findings will be used as

background information by

drug action teams as part of the

Government's drugs strategy.

with drugs.

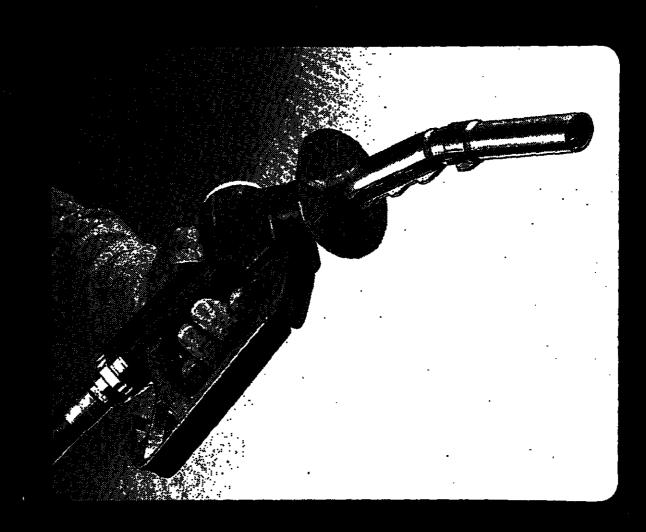
vey jound.

speed, it said.

People living in London, oth-

heroin, crack or methadone.

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Swing augurs a 138-seat Labour majority

The implications of Thursday's vote for the next general election are deeply gloomy for the

Conservatives, with only the faintest of silver linings.

Tony Blair, the Labour leader, admitted at yesterday's victory news conference: "I'm useless at statistics." But he was right to insist that the important comparison is between this week's local elections and those in May 1991, 11 months before the last general election.

Although the elections in 1991 were in a different set of local councils, the BBC's number crunchers estimate how they translate into parties' shares of the national vote. In 1991, Labour were just 1 percentage point ahead of the Tories. On Thursday, Labour

were 16 points ahead. A simple projection forlationship between local and Analysis

Blair is heading for a 7.5-point lead at the general election, which must be held within the next 12 months. That, as the BBC's Peter Snow might say. would mean a Labour majority of 138 seats - nearly as large as Margaret Thatcher's 144-seat majority in 1983. Little wonder the bookmak-

odds on a Labour victory. But, of course, there are - as Brian Mawhinney, the Tory party chairman, also rightly insisted yesterday - reasons for thinking that Mr Blair will not have such an easy ride to Down-

ers yesterday shortened the

ing Street. The first, and perhaps most important, was the low turnout. suggesting that voters are not yet so enthused by new Labour that national voting, suggests that Mr they feel they actually have to

take a detour on the way to work to sign up for it. coming increasingly discon-Turnout figures for local elecnected from people's real views when it comes to choosing a tions are notoriously difficult to compare year on year, but the Government. On the other hand, there are BBC computer processing the

early results on Thursday night grounds for suggesting that showed many turnout figures dropping by about two per-Thursday's results might even have understated Labour's centage points. strength. Labour has for years This means turnout was, on underperformed its national opinion poll ratings in local elec-tions, while the Liberal Deaverage, sinking down towards 30 per cent, compared with 46 per cent in 1991 (and 78 per mocrats have overperformed, and the Tories follow their poll cent in the last general election).

Against this background, Mr

It is likely that, as at the last general election, many people Blair's claim that the local elec-tions showed "people are demonstrating a far greater enwho have become used to votthusiasm for today's Labour ing Liberal Democrat for coun-Party" rings a little hollow. cil elections – either as a tactical The other main reason for scepticism about Labour's pervote against the Tories or as a protest against a local Labour formance is that local eleccouncil - will switch to Labour tions, like by-elections and for parliamentary elections. opinion polls, have increasing-

ratings quite closely.

But the triumph for the Libly been used to express a protest eral Democrats was that they reagainst the Government - a sisted the surge of new Labour

protest that is probably be- onto the centre ground. They Lamont's departure from took control of six more councils and pushed the Conservatives further into third place.

Even more encouragingly for them, on the BBC's estimate, their share of the vote was up - and if some of their targets such as Mole Valley and Stratford-upon-Avon failed to fall. they took Hastings in a fierce fight with Labour.

They failed to advance in Oldham, where Labour took five seats from the Conservatives to gain overall control, and along with the Conservatives lost seats in Rochdale as Labour took the council decisively from no overall control - a change that could threaten the Liberal Democrat MP. Liz Lynne.

The party's results aggregated across other constituencies, however, showed them taking over 50 per cent of the vote in the new Oldham East and Sad-

Kingston to the apparently safer haven of Harrogate and Knaresborough will prove a nasty shock if the general elec-tion result mirrors the council vote. The Liberal Democrats took 49.5 per cent, against just over 32 per cent for the Tories.

The party's results in the in-ner cities were mixed - despite Paddy Ashdown's claim that where the Conservatives need to be beaten we are proving we can beat them, and where Labour governs badly we can heat them too." The Liberal Democrats took six seats in Sheffield, three each off Labour and the Conservatives, and he-came the official opposition ahead of the Conservatives in Birmingham as the Tories lost fifteen seats, 12 to Labour and 3 to the Liberal Democrats.

John Rentoul and Nicholas Timmins

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RISHMOOR

From no change in Barnsley to a Labour win in Wyre Forest, the results in full

Metropolitan councils

BARNSLEY Lab, 63; Ind, 2; C, 1, Lab, No change BIRMINGHAM Lab, 87; LD, 17; C, 13. Lab, No change BOLTON . Lab. 48; C. 6; LD. 6. Lab. No chapper BRADFORD Lab. 71; C. 13; LD. 6. Lab, No change BURY Lab, 41; C. 4; LD, 3. Lab. No change CALDERDALE Lab. 37; C. 8: LD. 8; Ind, 1. Lab. No change COVENTRY Lab. 49; C. 4; Vac. 1. Lab, No change DONCASTER Lab. 59; C. 2; LD. 3. Lab, No change DUDLEY Lab. 60: C. 8: LD. 4. Lab. No change GATESHEAD

Lab, 50; LD, 13; C, 1; Lib, 1: Others, Lab. No change KIRKLEES Lab. 45; LD. 18; C. 6; Ind. 1; Vac. 1; Green, I. Lab. No change KNOWSLEY Lab. 65: LD. L. Lab, No change LEEDS Lab. 82: LD. 9: C. 8. Lab. No change LIVERPOOL Lab. 51; LD, 41; Lib. 2; C, 1; Ind. 1; Oth-Lab, No change MANCHESTER Lab, 84; LD, 15. Lab. No change **NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE** Lab. 65; LD. 13. Lab. No change OLDHAM Lab. 35; LD. 24; Ind. 1. Lab, gain from NOC ROCHDALE Lab, 36: LD, 18: C. 6. Lab, gain from NOC ROTHERHAM Lab, 65; C. I. Lab, No change SALFORD Lab. 57; LD. 3. Lab, No change SANDWELL Lab. 60; LD. 9; C. 2; Ind. 1. Lab, No change

SEFTON Lab. 32: LD. 24: C. 13. NOC No change SHEFFIELD Lab, 55; LD, 31; C, 1, (ab, No change SOLIHULL C. 16; Lab., 16; LD. 12; R. 4; Ind. 1; Vac. LD. 29; Lab. 6; C. 2; R. 2. l; Others. 1. NOC No chang ST HELENS Lab. 44; LD. 9; C. 1. Lab, No change STOCKPURT LD, 31; Lab, 27; C, 2; R, 2; Ind, I. SUNDERLAND Lab. 68; C. 4; LD. 2; Others. 1. Lab. No chance TAMESIDE Lab, 54; Ind. 2; LD. 1. Lab, No charge TRAFFORD Lab. 35: C. 23: LD. 5. Lab, gain from NOC NORTH TYNESIDE Lab. 45; C. 8; LD, 6; Ind. 1. Lab. No change SOUTH TYNESIDE Lab. 52: LD, 6: Ind. 1: Others, 1. Lab. No chance WAKEFIELD

Lab, No change WALSALL Lab. 25; C. 12: LD. 5; Ind. 3; Others. NOC No change WIGAN Lab. 69; LD. 2: Ind. 1. Lab, No change WIRRAL Lab. 41: C, 16: LD. 9 Lab. No cha WOLVERHAMPTON Lab. 46; C. 12; LD, 2. Non-metropolitan councils

Lab, 61: C, 2.

10

13

Lab, 24: LD, 17; C. I. Lab, gain from NOC BASINGSTOKE & DEANE C, 23; LD, 17; Lab. 14; Ind. 3. NOC No chapes BASSETLAW Lab, 34; C. b; LD, 3; Ind. 2: Others, 5. Lab, No change BEDFORD Lab, 22; LD, 16; C, 10; Ind, 5. NOC' No chang SOUTH BEDFORDSHIRE Lab, 24; LD, 15; C, 11; Ind, 3. NOC No change BLACKBURN Lab, 45; C, 12; LD, 3. Lab. No change BRENTWOOD LD, 25; C, 12; Lab, 2 LD, No change BROADLAND Lab, 20; C, 12; LD, 12; Ind, 5. BROXBOURNE C. 24: Lab. 14: LD. 4. C. No change BURNLEY Lab, 38; LD, 8; C. 1; ind. 1 Lab. No charg CAMBRIDGE Lab, 23; LD, 18; C, L Lab, gain from NOC SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE lud, 21: C. 13: LD. (1: Lab. (0). NOC No change CANNOCK CHASE

LD. No change

AMBER VALLEY

Lab, No change

Lab. No change

BASILDON

Lab, 39; C, 2; Ind, 2.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS

Lab, 29; C. 4; Others, 5.

Lab. 40; LD, 2 Lab. No change CARLISLE Lab. 33; C. 14; LD, 3; Ind, 1. Lab. No change CHELTENHAM LD, No change CHERWELL Lab. 28: C. 16; LD. 8. Lab, gain from NOC NOC No change CHORLEY COLCHESTER LD. No change CONGLETON LD, No change CRAVEN LD, No change CRAWLEY Lah, 28: C. 2: LD, 2 Lab. No change CREWE & NANTWICE Lab, No change DAVENTRY **NOC No charge**

LD, 22; C, 8.

LD, No change

EASTLEIGH

LD, No change

Lab. 36; C. 5.

Lab. No chang

ELMBRIDGE

LD, 31; C, 7; Lab, 6.

ELLESMERE PORT & NESTUN

LD, 34; C. 3; Lab. 1; Others, 3, Lab. 27: LD, 18; C, 14; Ind. 1. Lab. 35; LD. 7; C. 5; Ind. 1. LD, 33; Lab, 15; C, 11; R, 1. LD, 28; Lab, 11; C, 5; Ind, 1, LD. 18; C. 6; Lab. 6; lnd, 4. Lah, 38: C. 15; LD, 3: Ind, 1. Lab, 15; C. 15; Ind, 3; LD, 2 EASTBOURNE

Tomorrow's voters: A visibly unruffled John Major meets a party of schoolchildren in Downing Street yesterday

Lab, 25; LD, 8; C, 2 Lab, No change Lab LD Labou Soc Dem Social Democra Other

Seven Liberal Democrat gains:

C, 22: R, 30: LD, 9; Lab, 8; Ind, 1.

Lab. 17: LD, 16; C, 13; R, 9; Ind, 3; Soc.

NOC No change

NOC No change

Lab. No change

NOC No change

GILLINGHAM

LD. No change

GLOUCESTER

LD, 30; Lab, 10; C, 2

FARERAM

Lab, 34; LD, 7; Lib, 3; C, 2

LD, 21; C. 10; Lab, 8; Others, 3.

Dem. 1.

EXETER

EPPING FOREST

Runnymede slipped from Conservative overall control that will be run by Tories on mayor's casting vote. COSPORT LD. 17: Lab. 7: C. 4: Ind. 2. LD, No change **GREAT YARMOUTH** Lab. 38; C. 9; LD, I. Lab, No change HALTON Lab. 46; LD, 7. HARLOW Lab, 39; L.D. 3. Lab. No change HARROGATE LD, 44; C, 10; Lab, 4; Ind, 1. LD, No change HART LD, 15; C, 12: Ind, 8. NOC No change HASTINGS LD. 17; Lab. 15. LD, gain from NOC HAVANT LD, 20; Lab, 11; C, 8; Ind, 3. HEREFORD LD, 23; Lab, 4.

Changing face of local politics

Trafford, Hertsmere, Rochdale, Okham, Basildon, Peterborong Wyre Forest, Cherwell, Cambridge, North Hertfordshire, Millen Keyne

Hastings, Tumbridge Wells, West Lindsey, Woking, Wokingham, North

Councils changing hands - all from no overall control

HUNTINGDONSHIRE C, 33; LD, 13; Lab, 5; Ind, 2. HYNDBURN Lab. 44: C. 3. Lab. Ne chazes **IPSWICH** Lab, 41; C, 6; LD, 1. SOUTH LAXELAND LD. 24; Ind. 12; C, 10; Lab. 6. NOC No change WEST LANCASHIRE Lab, 35; C, 20. Lab, No change LEOMINSTER Ind, 19; LD, 7; Lab, 6; C, 3; Green, 1. Ind. No change LINCOLN Lah, 33. Lab, No change WEST LINDSEY LD, 19; Ind, 10; Lab, 3; C, 2; Others. LD, gain from NOC MACCLESFIELD C, 33; Lab, 12; LD, 11; R, 3; Vac. L. C, No change MAIDSTONE LD, 21; Lab. 18; C, 11: Ind. 5. NOC No change MOLE VALLEY LD. 19; C. 11; Ind. 9; Lab. 2. NOC No change NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME Lab. 42: LD, 10; C. 4. Lab, No change

Lab. 37; LD, 11.

NORTH HERIFORDSHIRE

Lab, 27; C, 16; LD, 6; Ind, L

Lab. 22; C, 8; LD, 8; Ind, 1.

Lab. gain from NOC

Lab, gain from NOC

HERTSMERE

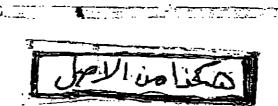
Photograph: Edward Sykes Lah. No chanse NUNEATON & BEDWORTH Lab, 42; C, 3. Lab, No change OXFORD Lab, 39; LD, 9; Green, 3. WEST OXFORDSHIRE Ind. 15; LD. 14; Lab, 11; C. 9. NOC No change PENDLE LD. 29: Lab. 19; C. 3. LD, No change LD, 11; Lab, 9; Ind, 8; C. 4; Others, 2. NOC No change PETERBOROUGH Lab, 29; C, 13; Lib, 3; LD, 2; Ind, 1. Lab, gain from NOC PRESTON Lab. 32: C. 13; LD, 12 Lab, No change PURBECK LD. 11; Ind. 5; C. 3; Lab. 3. **NOC No change** READING Lab, 35; LD, 6; C, 4. Lab. No change REDDITCH Lab. 25; C. 3; LD. 1. Lab. No chan REIGATE & BANSTEAD C, 15: LD, 14; Lab, 14: R, 4; Ind, 2. NOC No change ROCHFORD LD, 23, Lab, 11; R, 3; C, 2; Ind, 1. LD. No change RUSSENDALE Lab. 31; C, 5. Lab. No change RUGBY Lab. 22: C. 11; R. 6; LD, 5; Ind, 2; Oth-NOC No change

RUNNYMEDE

LD, 18; Lab. 14; C, 13. SHREWSBURY & ATCILAM Lab, 22; LD, 13; C, & Ind, 5. NOC No change SLOUGH Lab. 36: Lib. 3: Ind. 1 Lab, No change SOUTHEND-ON-SEA LD, 18; Lub, 12; C, 9. NOC' No change ST ALBANS LD, 39; Lab. 11; C. 5; Ind. 1; Vac. 1 LD, No change STEVENAGE Lab. 38; LD. L Lab, No change STRATFORD-ON-AVON LD, 24; C, 17; Ind, 9; Lab, 5. NOC No change STROUD Lab, 27; LD, 11; C, 7; Ind, 5; Green, 4; NOC No chang SWALE LD, 23; Lab, 19; C, 6; Ind. 1. NOC No change TAMWORTH Lab. 27; Ind. 3. Lab, No change TANDRIDGE 1.D. 19: C. it: Lab. 7. NOC No chance THREE RIVERS LD, 23; C, 17; Lab, 8. NOC No change THURROCK Lab. 38: C. 1. Lab. No change TUNBRIDGE WELLS LD, 27; C, 14; Lab, 6; Ind, 1. LD, gain from NOC WATFORD Lah, 21; LD, 9; C, 6. Lab, No change WAVENEY Lab. 44: C. 2: LD. 2 Lab. No change WELWYN HATVIELD Lab. 31; C. 16. Lab. No change WEYMOUTH & PORTLAND Lab. 15: LD. 14: Ind. 4: R. 2. NOC No change WINCHESTER LD, 36; C. 9; Lab, 6; Ind. 4. LD. No change WOKING LD, 18; C, 10; Lab, 7, LD. eain from NOC WOKINGHAM LD, 29; C, 24; Ind, 1. LD, gain from NOC WORCESTER Lab, 23; C, 9; LD, 3; Ind, 1. Lub. No change WORTHING LD, 25; C. H. i.D. No change WYRE FOREST Lab. 26; LD, 8; C, 3; Lib, 3; Ind, 2

Lab, gain from NOC

Unitary councils BOURNEMOUTE LD, 28; C. 14; Lab, 6; Ind, 4. No overall control BRIGHTON & HOVE Lab. 54; C. 23; Green, 1 Lab, control new co DARLINGTON Lab. 36; C, 13; LD, 2; Ind, L. DERRY Lab. 39; C. 3; LD. 2. Lab, control new conneil HARTLEPOOL Lab. 39; LD. 5; C. 2; Ind. 1. Lab, No change LEICESTER Lab. 41; LD. 8; C, 7. lab, control new counci LUTON Lab. 36: LD, 9: C. 3. Lab, control new counc MILTON KEYNES Lab, 30; LD, 18; C, 2: Ind, 1. POOLE LD, 23; C. 13; Lab, 3. LD, control new council PORTSMOUTH Lab. 21; LD. 12; C. 6. Lubour hold RUTLAND SOUTHAMPTON Lab. 24, LD, 13, C. 3, Lab, control new council STOKE-ON-TRENT Lab. NI. Lab, control new counci THAMESIOOWN Lab. 41; LD, 9; C, 3; Ind. 1. Lab, control new council



LD, No change

ind. No change

SOUTH HEREFORDSHIRE

Ind, 25; LD, 13; Vac. 1.

MODE HUNGIONS

Tories fail A lonely life now Essex has rejected old allies Man, the epitomy of the populist working class voter ining back seats in Basildon the Conservatives he has watched with dismay as the party has fought conservatives have to stop. Like many grass roots Conservatives he has watched with dismay as the party has fought conservatives have to stop as the party has fought conservatives have to stop as the party has fought conservatives have to stop as the party has fought conservatives in Basildon the conservatives have to stop as the party has fought conservatives in Basildon the conservatives have to stop as the party has fought conservatives in Basildon the conservatives have to stop as the party has fought conservatives in Basildon the conservatives have to stop as the party has fought conservatives in Basildon the conservatives have to stop as the party has fought conservatives in Basildon the conservatives have to stop as the party has fought conservatives in Basildon the conservatives have to stop as the party has fought conservatives in Basildon the conservatives have to stop as the party has fought conservatives in Basildon the conservatives have to stop as the party has fought conservatives in Basildon the conservatives have to stop as the party has fought conservatives in Basildon the conservatives have to stop as the party has fought conservatives in Basildon the conservatives have to stop as the party has fought conservatives in Basildon the conservatives have to stop as the party has fought conservatives in Basildon the conservatives have to stop as the party has fought conservatives in Basildon the conservatives have to stop as the party has fought conservatives in Basildon the conservatives have to stop as the party has fought conservatives in Basildon the conservatives have to stop as the party has fought conservatives in Basildon the conservatives have to stop as the party has fought conservatives in Basildon the conservatives have to stop as the party has fought conservatives in Basildon to find southern comfort

NICHOLAS TIMMINS Public Policy Editor

Bournemouth, Poole, Brighton and Hove, three South coast towns which the Conservatives promoted as their best hope for signs of a Tory revival, failed to deliver on Thursday.

With the elections for new shadow unitary authorities the seats were being contested on last year's results - the Conservatives worst ever in local government - rather than the high of 1992 on which most of

Thursday's poll was fought. But in Bournemouth, rather than advancing to take control again of a town that had been true blue for a century up to 1. the Conservatives slipped back, taking a net loss of two.

In Poole, they merely stood still, sticking on 13 seats as the Liberal Democrats gained five - three new seats plus one gain from Labour and one from an independent.

In Brighton and Hove. Geoffrey Theobald, the likely Conservative group leader, claimed a 2 per cent swing back to the Conservatives yesterday. But they still lost seven seats to Labour's nine gains. Steve Bassam. Labour's leader in Brighton, retorting that "54 seats out of 78" - Labour's position on the new authority-"is a landslide in anybody's terms".

In Bournemouth, Juney Griffiths, a defeated Conservative councillor, blamed the Government. "The things that lost us this were national policies, not local ones," she said. "There is general dissatisfaction with the way the Government is handling oh so many things."

Low interest rates were hitting the income of Bournemouth's army of pensioners, she said, while many were worried about long-term care. If the

SOME COST

Bob Chapman, the Tory group leader, also blamed "gen-eral dissatisfaction" with the Government. "We worked very hard. We couldn't have done much more to pull the vote out, but it didn't want to come."

The town held its own disappointment for the Liberal Democrats who failed by one seat to turn their minority control into full control. A revived Labour vote produced a Conservative gain in one ward at the Liberal Democrat's expense.

In neighbouring Poole, however, talked up by Labour as much as by the Tories as a likely site for gains, there was no such Blair effect. Their four seats fell to three as the Liberal Democrats strengthened their control. "We expected to do much better," Tony Gardner, the Labour group leader who lost his own seat, admitted.

Ominously for the Tories he said tactical voting played a part. "The Liberal Democrats said very clearly that only they could keep the Tories out and that had some effect, there's no doubt about that."

The result leaves the Liberal Democrats poised to take the new parliamentary seat of Mid Dorset and North Devon, to be contested by Alan Leaman, the party's director of strategy. In the relevant wards the Liberal Democrats took 52 per cent of the vote, he said, yesterday.

Further along the coast, Conservative Central Office's hopes of a revival faired no better. Labour held Portsmouth and in Hastings the Tories suffered a wipe-out losing their last five seats as the Liberal Democrats took control. Tactical voting in the general election would threaten the 6,634 majority of the Conservative MP Jacqui Lait over the Liberal De-

Malcolm Buckley yesterday con-templated a solitary existence in Basildon council chamber with the sort of determined optimism which Conservative activists have to adopt in these desperate times.

"I suppose I will feel a bit lonely," said Mr Buckley. "But there are a great number of for-mer councilors and party workers who will be working with me to achieve some of our Conservative ideals and put our case forward."

On Thursday Mr Buckley was the only Conservative coun-

Stumped

by mayor

in cricket

heartland

When the Magna Carta, the

great charter of liberties, was

signed in Runnymede in 1215,

there was so much worry over

"the abuses of local govern-

ment" that a special clause was demanded by the barons. Yes-terday, 781 years on in Run-

nymede, they were still worrying

about local government.
True-blue Surrey, redolent of

gins and tonics, fine golf clubs,

pop stars' palaces, and the

cricket and warm beer of village

greens so beloved by the Prime

Minister, had almost lowered

now ensure the party's control.

In two key wards of the 13 con-

tested on Thursday, Labour lost by a total of only 24 votes.

"It was sickening for us really," said Rodney Pate, leader of the

Labour group in Runnymede.
In this part of world the

Labour Party don't normally

choose council candidates, they

send out a search party. The

Tories' loss of two wards, with

Labour gaining two, means the

new council is now made up of

21 Tories, 14 Labour, six inde-

pendents and one Liberal De-

mocrat. A new mayor will be

If the Conservative's national

party chairman, Brian Mawhin-

Barclay bear than any other. So

elected on 14 May.

the Tory flag of control. Only the casting vote of the lory mayor of Runnymede will

JAMES CUSICK

cillor to survive in Basildon when he fought off the Liberal Democrat challenge in his Wickford South ward by 99 votes. Thirteen of his party colleagues were defeated and Labour took control of the

The landslide qualified him for endangered species status in the Essex town which was the symbol of John Major's General Election victory in 1992. The Tory victory there provided the first clear signal that Labour had lost for the fourth time running.
It demonstrated that Essex

Baroness Thatcher, was still backing the Government. But Mr Major can no longer rely on this crucial sector of the elec-

Mr Buckley, 45, an estate igent, tried to sound upbeat yesterday when he pointed out that last year Basildon Conservatives lost every ward, including his own which went to the Liberal Democrats by four votes. But he admitted that voters had told him that all the political parties, including the Conservatives,

squabbling, tell voters that there is more that unites them under the Tory banner than divides them and hammer home the message that Britain is doing better economically than other

European countries. 'In terms of public relations the Conservative Party as an organisation has an appalling record," he said. "The Labour Party has rung rings around us for a couple of years and I certainly think that Brian Mawhinney, the party chairman, has got to take that in hand."

Like many grass roots Con- Prescott and Robin Cook verpublicly over European policy. We should concentrate on areas of European policy where

differences in private and present a publicly united front," The other thing we have to do is to bring to the electorate's attention just how how unreliable the opposition are. If Labour came to power I don't think that we will see the Tony Blair version of the Labour

there is agreement and on the

positive aspects, resolve our

still regard Lady Thatcher as the leader they should never have lost but have reluctantly accepted Mr Major as her successor. They believe that he now has to demonstrate her political gut instincts when faced with a

"I don't think we have any choice about John Major leading us into the next general election," Mr Buckley said.

"I expect him to get back on his soap box and deliver the goods by sticking to good, basic Conservative beliefs."



Tory stronghold still: Englefield Green, where villagers are preparing for cricket and warm beer this summer as usual

Photograph: Philip Meech

day, he could do no better than telephone Howard Langley. Runnymede's council leader. Mr Langley spent most of yes-terday with his calculator. The result of his digital arithmetic

was, he insisted, good news.
Loss of control, loss of two seats, end of an era? Mr Lan-

light at the end of a tunnel to- out mentioning losses he said: the country are drowning in "Two years ago we won five seats, last year we won seven seats, this year we won nine seats. Anyone who is writing off the Conservatives is a fool.

There will be warm beer and cricket at Englefield Green where the grass is being prepared for the village cricket seaplatike us have not felt it yet". mocrats in Hastings and Rye. ney, is still struggling to see the gley will have none of it. With- son and even if Tories all over down, then gee whizz, who is the ground, and claimed the

tears, Mr Langley is set to break out the champagne. "The Conservatives in Runnymede did brilliantly," he said in his best Dunkirk voice, "Our overall vote went up by 3,000 to 11,000; our overall percentage of the vote went up from 74 to

76 per cent. If this is melt

kidding who?" And there was a message for Mr Mawhinney, Mr Langley insisted the Tories' campaign was positive. "We fought on what the reasons were to vote for us."

Labour, as almost-but-notquite losers sometimes do, blamed anything. Mr Pate said Labour had too few troops on

Tories fought a "dirty" leaflet-

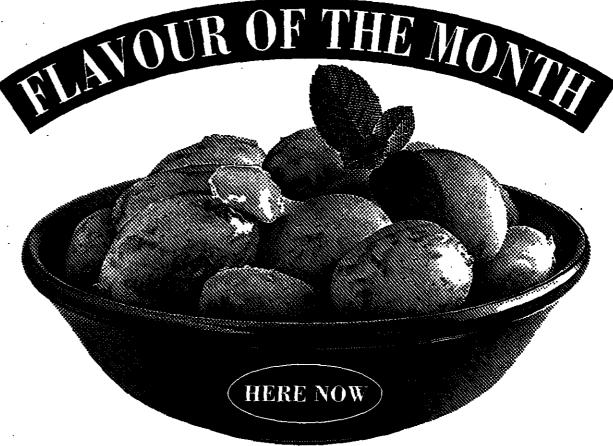
ing campaign.

And in Virginia Water the Labour vote actually tripled from around 30 votes to just over 100. 'Is that all we got?" asked Mr Pate. "We were hoping for more, but I suppose when the constituency is very wealthy, you can't call that a



Ror a Barringhan you simply go to any Barclays branch

the of our Personal Bankers. He or she



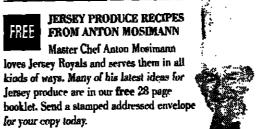
delicate flavour, Jersey Royals are the finest new potatoes you could ever taste. From the first time they were grown on the sun-warmed island of Jersey, they've been relished for a flavour

that's unique. Jersey Royals are in the

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Jail for killer who called 1471 to trace victim

An unemployed man who stabbed his love rival to death with an eight-inch carving knife after finding out his iden-tity by dialling British Tele-com's 1471 call-back service was yesterday cleared of mur-

der by a jury. But Colin Critchlow, 23. of Wednesfield. West Midlands, was jailed for five-and-a-half years for the manslaughter of 18-year-old soldier Andrew Green, of Willenhall, West Mid-

The jury at Northampton Crown Court was told that Critchlow, who had denied murder, stabbed Mr Green in the back four times then kicked him in the head with steelcapped safety boots as he lay dy-

The jury found Critchlow guilty of manslaughter on the grounds that he was provoked into the attack by his live-in girlfriend Joanne Rudge, 19. also of Wednesfield.

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flaunted her affections for Mr Green in front of him.

Frichlow was also sentenced to a , ... s jail, to be served consecutively, after admitting stealing nearly £14,000 from the safe of an hotel in Wolverhampton where he previously worked as a porter.

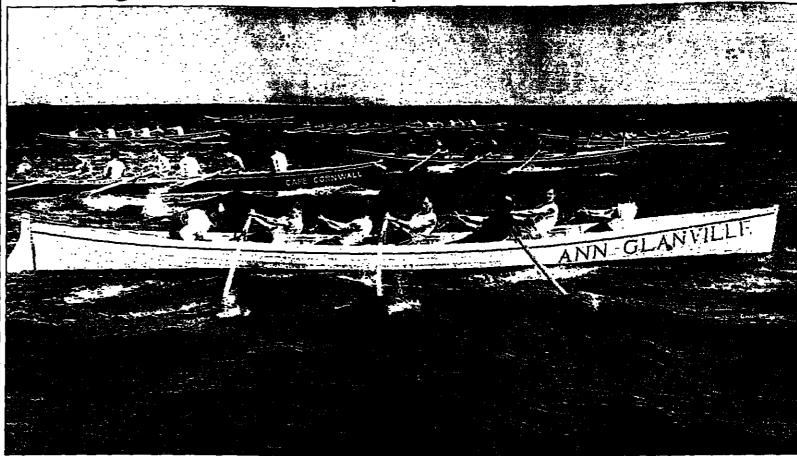
He asked the court to pass on his regret and sorrow what he had done to the Green family. Outside court after the bearing members of Mr Green's family were in tears, and de-

scribed the verdict as a disgrace. "He has got away with mur-der. It is a disgrace." said Mr Green's grandmother, Elizabeth Green. Mr Green's parents and oth-

er members of his family were often in tears as they sat through the five-day trial. The jury had been told how

Mr Green, a private in the Critchlow became suspicious that Ms Rudge, with whom he has a one-year-old daughter, Royal Artillery, had only returned home on leave the night

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world championships to be held around the Scilly Isles this weekend.

Martin Langdon, a graphic artist and crew member — along with a coalman, dry out inside the [garden] lettuce in the roughest seas. One fundate our member in the roughest seas. One fundate our can be 10 feet in the air, the next dry out inside the [garden] lettuce are 10 feet under water," he said.

light" for the race, which goes ahead even in the roughest seas. "One minute your oar can be 10 feet in the air, the nevalou

"Find them for less locally

Dulux Vinyi Matt, & we'll refund Pure Brilliant White, 2.5 Litres, Was £7.99 Dulux Vinyl Matt or Silk Emulsion White. 7.5 Litres Was £15.99 Dulux

vas seeing someone else. He dialled 1471 after finding

a number he did not recognise

on their telephone - and got the

number of Mr Green's parents

He then chased Mr Green in

a car after spotting him kissing and holding hands with Ms Rudge in Wednesfield last Au-

Mr Green stumbled and fell

over as he tried to get away.

Critchlow leapt out of the car

and stabbed him four times in

the back as he lay face down on

He then kicked Mr Green in

Critchlow claimed in his ev-

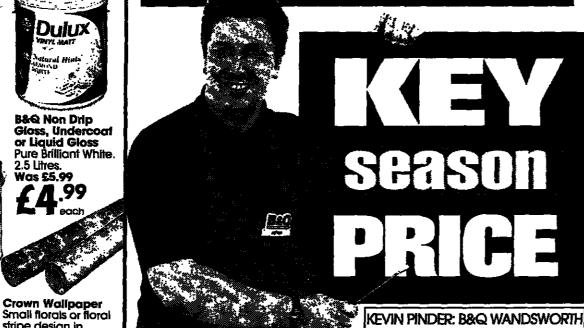
idence that he had not intend-

ed to kill Mr Green and said he had no memory of stabbing him

the head, shouting. Get up and fight you bastard."

the floor.

with the knife.



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Fans united in stand over seats of yearning

KATE WATSON-SMYTH

Manchester United expect to be crowned champions of football's Premier League at Middlesbrough tomorrow, but a group of their most loyal supporters will be reluctant to ioin the celebrations.

The club, who have annoyed fans with frequent changes of kit and been criticised for selling their own brand whisky, now face protests stemming from the £28 million redevelopment of their Old Trafford ground.

Last season, 1,500 season ticket holders were temporarily moved while the north stand was rebuilt. But United have told the supporters that they will not be able to return to their old seats because the area has been set aside for executive members

and corporate entertainment. Two disgruntled regulars. supported the club for the last 50 years and never miss a home match. Since 1966, they have enjoyed "the best seats in the ground" - in the centre of the North Stand. Now, they may cancel their season tickets.

Mrs Brownhill, aged 75, from Stretford, said: "We have been totally loyal for 50 years and now they have taken our seats away so that they can give them to people with more money. There is an enormous feeling of betrayal among fans. We never deserted them, even when they were in the second division. This is how they treat us."

United season tickets are current level of success." highly prized and supporters

their loyalty to the club before they can buy one. The Brownhills spend £308 out of their pension every year, but the new cost in the executive stand is £1.2(0).

can keep our temporary seats which are right up in a corner where we can't see the goal." said Mrs Brownbill. "We can return to north stand, but only on one of the new tiers which are very high up. We cannot

manage that many steps. "We may just call it a day and cancel our tickets altogether. It will be such a shame, but there is no point spending money for

seats that are no good." A Susan Halpern, who has sat behind the Brownhills with her husband Jeffrey for 28 years, accused the club of not telling supporters of its plans until the last minute. "We were led we would have our old scats back and now we will have to take grossly inferior seats because it is too late to do anything about it. The fans have been treated disgracefully.

Ken Ramsden, United's assistant secretary, said it had been decided that an executive area was the best way of recouping the huge ground costs. "We've apologised, but it was very expensive to rebuild the stand and we had to generate the money from somewhere, he said. "We are a commercial organisation and need to generate an income to continue our

Oyston 'victim' dabbled in drugs

ton in a three-in-a-bed sex session told a court yesterday that she had dabbled in drugs since the age of 13.

The woman, now aged 20, claims that when she was 16 she was driven to 62-year-old Mr Oyston's country mansion. where she watched him have sex with another girl before being ordered to take her clothes off and join them. Cross-examined by Anthony

Scrivener QC, defending, at Liverpool Crown Court, the woman admitted she had smoked cannabis and taken ecstasy and amphetamines occasionally since she was 13. She said she smoked cannabis as recently as last

year. "I was smoking cannabis to forget," she said. "It made me forget things. I didn't want to face up to things. But she told Mr Serivener: "It doesn't give him the right to do

what he did though, does it?"
Mr Scrivener replied: "Not at ali, not at ali." The woman also claims Mr Oyston, chairman of Blackpool form oral sex in the back of a car.

lootball club, forced her to per-Mr Oyston, of Claughton Hall, near Lancaster, pleads not guilty to raping and indecently assaulting the woman, and denies raping another woman. The first woman in the case,

A woman who claims she was raped by millionaire Owen Oyshas told the jury she was driven to Mr Oyston's house late at night and raped on the fourposter bed.

Asked by Mr Scrivener whether she protested when Mr Oyston allegedly forced her to have oral sex, the woman asked: "What could I do?"

Mr Serivener said: "You could have said no." "I put my head up and he pulled it back down," the

woman said. She refuted Mr Scrivener's suggestion that the incident never took place. Mr Scrivener suid she could have asked Lisa French, who was sitting in the front seat of the car, for help.

The woman said: "Lisa ... she was going out with him." She denied she had been in terested in looking around Mr

Ovston's house. Mr Scrivener suggested that she was, and that she went upstairs to look at the bedroom Lisa French had gone to the bathroom and when she came

out they had all left. The woman said: "You can suggest what you like but I are not lying. I know what

she saw a doctor after the

Asked why she had not complained to anyone, she said: "I was too ashamed."

YOU CAN DO IT WHEN YOU BEQ IT!

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GOLDSHIL Kind to dr and ecze

happened."
She could not remember if

incident.

international

Detectives link Tasmania killer to more murders

GEOFF SPENCER of Associated Press

Hobart - Police said yesterday that they will re-investigate two unsolved murders and a disappearance in Tasmania to see if they are connected with the man accused of a massacre last

Martin Bryant, 28, is accused of shooting 35 sightseers and staff at the Port Arthur colonial prison complex last Sunday with high-powered assault weapons. He then barricaded himself inside a guest cottage with three hostages and set it alight. He is now in Royal Hobart Hospital under heavy police guard with extensive burns to his back.

Assistant Police Commissioner Luppo Prins said yes-terday that officials will determine if Bryant was linked to the murders of a tourist and a cal man, and the disappearance of a German tourist.

Italian tourist Victoria Cafasso, 20, was stabbed to death on a beach at Beaumaris on Tasmania's east coast late last year; Leo Rogers was stabbed more than 60 times in his home in Ho-since Bryant was brought there. bart last year; and Nancy Most callers are angry that

Grundwaldt, 26, disappeared near Beaumaris in 1993.

Bryant is receiving medical care under the same roof as some of

under the same roof as some of

A trace was put on the hos-

pital switchboard on Thursday

after staff absenteeism increased dramatically following

the threats. "There's been a few

phone calls that have been tracked and handed over to the

police," Pyne said yesterday.
Police have not released de-

ed people, Pyne said. A bomb

scare was also telephoned to the

hospital and 80 staff and 12

emergency patients were tem-

Meanwhile, the first victim of this week's Port Arthur massacre was laid to rest. More than 600 mourners paid their respects to Royce Thompson, 59, a bus driver who died in the massacre at the historic ruins of Australia's most notorious colonial-era prison.

Mr Thompson was mowed down by his bus. He had driven a group tourists on a regular day trip to Port Arthur. "He was a special fellow, one of nature's gentlemen," his boss, Bob Chung Gon, said before the fu-neral at St Clement's church at Kingston, near Hobart.

Yesterday's burial will be followed by many more as bodies, most of them of visitors from other states, are returned to relatives over the next few days following post mortem examinations. Of the 18 people wounded in the massacre, 10 are still in hospital, one in a serious condition. Most are expected to be released next week.

Lindsay Pyne, the hospital's chief executive, said more than 40 threats had been received

the people he is suspected of tails of the threats, but the calls have frightened hospital staff already stressed from long hours of treating badly wound-

Still calling: Rosie Gries, 100 years old, celebrating with her great grand-daughter, Kristine

Avon lady rings up a century

Bismarck, North Dakota (AP) - Rosie Gries made her first Avon sale in 1938 - a 10-cent (6p) tube of hand cream. Now, at the age of 100, she is still ring-ing doorbells as the cosmelic

company's oldest salesperson. "I feel like I did when I was 16," Ms Gries said on her birthday on Thursday. "I don't feel my age. I can't believe it."

Some things have changed in the 58 years she has been selling for Avon - she hires a driver for her twice-monthly rounds, and she does not see or hear as well as she used to.

Nonetheless, Ms Gries has vowed to sell Avon for "as long as I can walk". She has about 25 customers in the sparsely populated area of North Dakota where she lives.

Ms Gries has gained fame for her long service – even making a television appearance on The Tonight Show in 1986.

Avon paid tribute to its oldest salesperson by throwing a party for Ms Gries. Tomorrow starts a new day and then I have to start over again," she said.

Chinese dissident flees to America

RENEE SCHOOF Associated Press

lining

Peking - A leader of China's 1989 democracy movement has fled to the United States because police harassment made it impossible for him to find a job or a place to live.

Liu Gang left China with the help of international human rights groups and arrived in the



him from getting a job

US penniless but with political asylum. the New York-based group Human Rights in China reported yesterday.

In Washington, presidential spokesman Mike McCurry said Mr Liu entered the US under a Justice Department waiver that allows admittance for emergency or national interest

Mr Liu served a six-year prison sentence for participation in the 1989 Tiananmen Square pro-democracy protest, earning the nickname "Iron Man" for his refusal to bend to prison rules.

victim

in drug

Robin Munro of Human Rights Watch Asia called Mr Liu "a very brave man and indomitable fighter for democracy" who was "badly tortured and beaten and ill-treated" in

China has almost no dissident community left, Mr Munro

Released in June, Mr Liu returned to his family's home in Liaoyuan, in north-eastern Jilin province, where police kept a tight watch on him.

They surrounded his house

followed him and made it im possible for him to get a job. Mr Liu earlier said that pour crashed into taxis he was in, and earched, detained and robbed

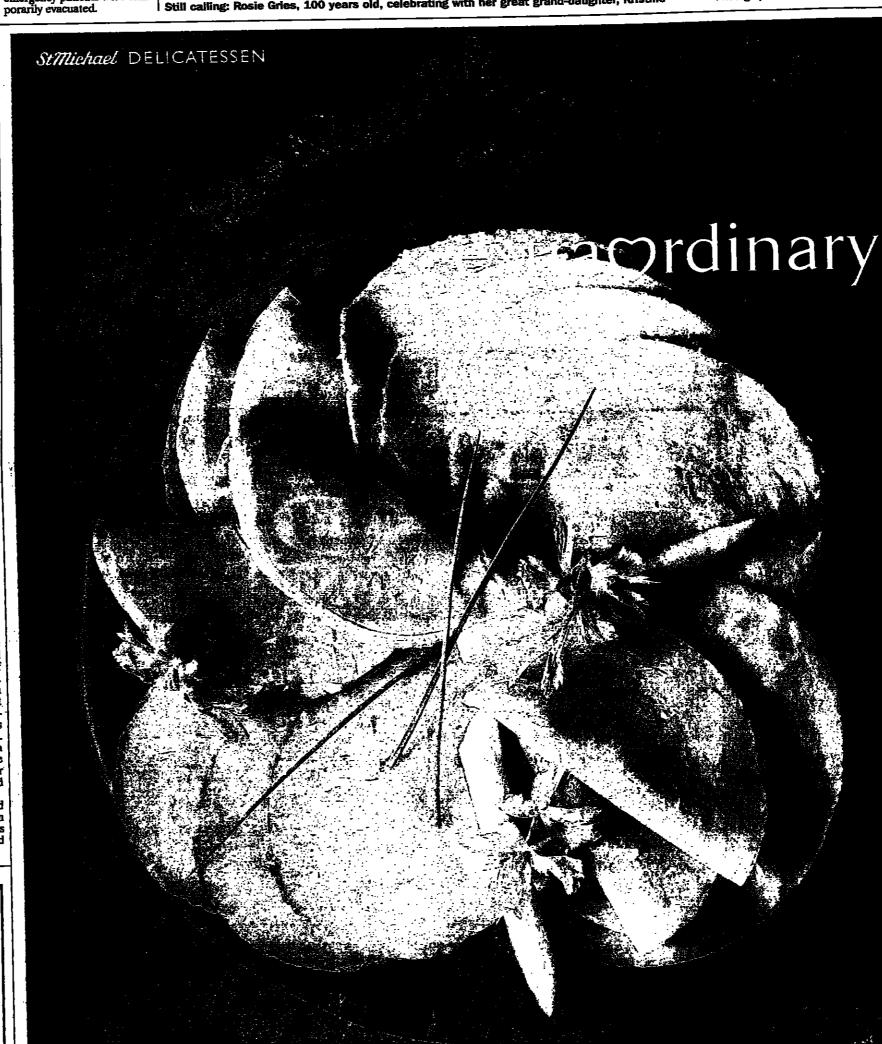
The police in Liaoyuan treated me very badly. I couldn't bear them," Mr Liu said. They also ordered him to report his thoughts to them once a week, not to leave his home town and not to talk to foreign reporters Mr Liu refused.

Mr Liu left his family home after his stepmother suffered mental disturbances because of the stress of police harassment.

He went to Peking last month to file an appeal asking to be left alone. Mr Liu said police threatened to arrest him again unless he returned to his home town.

The Human Rights in China report said police would cause so much trouble for anyone Mr Liu stayed with that he would forced to leave.

It also said authorities refused to assign him a job or give him a licence for a small business like a street stall, and warned employers not to hire him.



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IN BRIEF

Algeria tops list of journalists' deaths Paris — Some 51 journalists were killed and more than 100 jailed around the world last year, compared with 103 in 1994, the Paris-based Reporters Without Borders said. The organisation reported that some countries including Romania and Egypt allow their criminal justice sys-tems to curtail press freedom. Algeria led the list of journalists killed on the job, with 22 assas-

Nastase may sue

Bucharest - Romanian former tennis star Ilie Nastase, who is running for mayor of Bucharest, threatened to sue over newspaper claims he had served the communist-era Securitate spy

Sex toy arrests

Peking - Police arrested six people after complaints that obscene toys had been packaged in snack foods for children. The Guangdong Wanda food factory allegedly packaged plastic models of a man and woman having sexual intercourse. AP

Military build-up

Canberra - Australia's military is to boost its combat capability, including beefing up offshore fighting forces, to keep pace with Asian powers locked in an arms-buying spree. Reuter

Harassment claim

New York - A woman who worked for George C Scott has accused the actor of sexual harassment. Julie Wright claims Scott made demeaning sexual comments, tried to kiss and foudle her and asked her to have

China quake kills 8 Peking - At least eight people were killed and nearly 100 injured when an earthquake measuring 6.4 on the Richter scale jolted China's Inner Mongolia Reuter region.

Death penalty stays Strasbourg — The Russian Foreign Minister, Yevgeny Primakov, ruled out any early abo-lition of the death penalty, despite pressure from the Council of Europe which Rus-



Peace steps: A women pushes her belongings into the Bosnian-Serb held Grbavica district of Sarajevo, where many Muslims are returning home Photograph: Oleg Popov

Summit fails to ban anti-personnel mines

CHRISTOPHER BELLAMY Defence Correspondent

Humanitarian agencies yesterday described the United Nations inhumane Weapons Convention conference, which ended without a total ban on anti-personnel landmines, a dismal failure".

Diplomatic sources stressed the achievements of the twoweek conference, but the British working group on landmines, which includes Oxfam, Save the Children, Unicef and Christian Aid, said its decisions were "riddled with loopholes, delays and lack of enforcement. In ssence this is a mine layers' charter.

The conference, held in Gene-va, agreed to ban laser weapons designed to blind people but failed to agree a blanket ban on the anti-personnel mines which kill or maim an estimated 20,000 people a year - mostly civilians after the wars in which they were laid have ended.

Nations do not have to com-

ply with the convention until nine years after it comes into force, meaning that "dumb" anti-personnel mines - which do not self-destruct dafter a certain period of time - can be laid. legally for the next decade. After that, it will be illegal to lay "dumb" mines. But although the convention is legally bind-

ing, there are no provisions for verifying compliance.
The revised protocol introduces strict standards for the self-destructing mines, which re-main legal, to ensure they are easy to detect. New standards for marking minefields are also included, except where "direct enemy military action makes it impossible to comply". That is likely to be the case in many fu-

ture armed conflicts. Aid agencies criticised the protocol for "legitimising" the 'smart" mines which critics say are not sufficiently reliable to remove the threat to civilians completely.

The conference, attended by

Embassy took the unusual step of disseminating an internal

memo, sent to all embassy staff

when the first reports of her sup-

posed resignation appeared. It says, in capital letters: "The Em-

bassy of the United States in

tended the scope of the con-vention to civil wars, where almost all the recent carnage caused by anti-personnel mines has occurred. But many internal operations, such as those in Chechnya or Kashmir, could be classified as "internal security" or police actions, thus evading the convention.

Humanitarian groups also attacked the definition of antipersonnel mines, described as those "primarily designed to be exploded by the presence, proximity or contact of a person". This could exclude dual-use mines, designed to destroy light vehicles, and the sub-munitions from weapons like Britain's JP-233 anti-nurway weapon, which are "primarily" designed to de-stroy runways and hinder their repair but which are also anti-

personnel weapons. The convention bans the

transfer of anti-personnel mines to "non-state" groups - like Hizbollah or the IRA - but humanitarian agencies are also part of the convention.

the convention would help. British Foreign Office Minister. David Davis, said yesterday: The revised protocol will set new standards which will sig-nificantly reduce the dangers to innocent civilians. But it is only a step. Our goal is a total inter-

national ban on these weapons."
On 22 April Mr Davis announced Britain would destroy 46 per cent of its stock of about 20,000 anti-personnel mines immediately. It would destroy the remainder if a total worldwide ban was agreed - something that is now unlikely to happen in the near future.

The conference did succeed in agreeing provisions for penal sanctions against people seriously violating the protocol, al-though it might be difficult to discover who had laid mines, and for an annual conference to discuss land mines.

The next full review conference will take place in five

US Embassy quashes report of Harriman quitting Paris

MARY DEJEVSKY

The United States embassy in Paris has "categorically denied" that the ambassador, the British-born aristocrat, Pamela Harriman, is resigning her post or leaving France. The denial follows a series of reports that Ms Harriman, whose arrival in Paris as an appointee of President Clinton raised eyebrows in diplomatic circles, was standing down or had already left France. To support its denial, the US

France would like to clarify that Ambassador Harriman is still in Paris and will remain at her post indefinitely. The duration of the mission for all American ambassadors is at the pleasure of the president of the United States." While there can be no doubt that Ms Harriman is in Paris, has not resigned, and apparently has no intention of leaving be-

fore the end of Mr Clinton's first term as president, the wide currency given to reports of her resignation raise questions about the degree of support the 76-year-old ambassador enjoys in Washington, and specifically at the State Department. When it was pointed out that the initial reports of her departure came from Washington, a US embassy source in Paris said: "Washington is a hive of Ambassador Harriman has enemies like everyone else."

One of the first Paris reports of Ms Harriman's departure appeared in last week's Paris Match magazine, which showed a picture of Ms Harriman recelving an award from the French culture minister under the heading. "Au revoir Madame after the autumn presidential l'ambassadeur". The caption elections. said that Ms Harriman had left Paris on 17 April and had received the award "to remind her of the city she so loves".

This week's edition carries a grovelling apology, headed: "Pardon, Madame l'ambas-

Pameia Harriman:

sador wishes to clarify that she is still at her post in Paris and the end of Bill Clinton's presidency next January. We present our apologies for the erroneous

The Washington Post article which fuelled US reports of her imminent departure, quoted Ms Harriman as saying that she would be "ready to go home"

She said her time in Paris had been "fascinating, but I've had enough", and she referred to long working days, the "limit to how long you can live a public life" and the difficulties of buing single, and a woman in an ambassadorial post: "Many things I do would never be

asked of a male ambassador". The general tone of her remarks, and the fact that she was quoted as referring to the elections, rather than to the end of Mr Clinton's term, or to his possible re-election, permitted her remarks to be interpreted as meaning that she was leaving sooner rather than later.

Whatever the origin of the story, the Paris embassy's determination to scotch the story indicates it has been embarrassed and that Ms Harriman's position as ambassador has been undermined.

The affair comes at a time when the US particularly needs a strong presence in Paris. Relations are going through an ences in emphasis, if not outright rivalry, on Middle East policy, a year-old dispute about illeged CIA activities in France rumbling on, and a report in the French media yesterday, alleging that a US spy plane had overflown sensitive military in-

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Indian leader's guru in jail for fraud trace Prem Kumar, "Such peotrace Prem Kumar, "Such peotrace

prime minister. Narasimha Rao, for his sorcery and political savvy, was sent to a New Delhi jail yesterday on charges

India has throngs of bogus holy men but few are as successful or controversial as Chandraswamy, 47, who looks like an over-fed werewolf. Wearing white robes and with golden talismans clanking around his neck, the hairy godman", as the Indian press calls him. was led off by police to Tihar jail. one of the most violent prisons in Asia.

The swami's arrest is also a measure of how far the prime minister himself has fallen. Until now, Mr Rao's patronage has given Chandraswamy far greater protection from the law than any sorcerer's talisman. But with Mr Rao's Congress party facing defeat in parliamentary elections, which end on 9 May. Chandraswamy's spell of invulnerability is fast fading.

It was a lowly chief magistrate in New Delhi who finally had Chandraswamy arrested, after Supreme Court justices and cabinet ministers had tried in the past - and failed. They were the past - and failed. They were of Investigation (CBI), similar to Britain's MI5, which is under the prime minister of the prime mini Mr Rao's control.

"The CBI, which operates directly under the prime minister, had been dilly-dallying on the investigation due to the government's lukewarm attitude,"

If the magistrate had been as scathing about the prime minister just a few weeks ago, he would have found himself banished to the guerrilla-infested jungles of the North-east as punishment. As one Supreme Court lawyer said: "This magistrate wouldn't have had the guts to do this before. He realises that Rao is a setting sun."

What finally brought the jetsetting swami into a nose-dive was an eight-year old complaint made by a British-based Indian pickle merchant. Chandraswamy allegedly cheated the businessman, Lakhu Bhai Pathak, out of \$100,000 on the false promise that he would use his government influence to obtain a newsprint contract.

Bail was denied for the swami but he is expected to plead poor health in hopes of being moved out of an over-crowded jail cell in 105 degree heat to an air-conditioned hospital.

In Madras, where he was arrested on Thursday night, Chandraswamy wailed to the judge: "I am surprised I have been arrested. I am unwell." The swami was then flown to New Delhi, made to appear in

The prime minister, campaigning for the third and final round of India's elections, refused to comment on his guru's arrest. Mr Rao and the swami had been friends for 27 years, and when Mr Rao became would touch the "godman's" prime minister in 1991. Chan-manicured toes in obeisance.

facing prosecution. Such people cedes-Benz was allowed entry up the driveway to the premier's up the driveway to the premier's mansion, earning him the nickname of "Mr Rao's Rasputin". The guru often boasted that the prime minster called him every day. But no longer.
Known as a "tantric", a kind

of sorcerer who relies on incantations and mystical diagrams, Chandraswamy bas made previous accusations against him vanish into the air. The previous minister for internal security, Rajesh Pilot, al-leged last September that Chandraswamy had harboured a gangland assassin. Soon after making the

charges, Mr Rao cast Mr Pilot into the political wilderness, making him minister in charge of forests and environment. Reports that the guru had acted as a bagman for an industrialist, who allegedly passed on £460,000 to the prime minister, were never chased up by police. In February, the CBL probably at Mr Rao's prodding, insisted that the case against the holy man be closed.

The Supreme Court, which lately has been the one lone voice against government cor-ruption, refused to drop the cases against the notorious guru. In an unprecedented move, the court also criticised the CBI for its bias towards the guru; the CBI director, according to some reports, was an occasional visitor to the Chandraswamy's ashram, where dignitaries



Chandraswamy's intrigues go beyond India. Among his devotees are said to be some very eminent people, including businessmen, stars of stage and screen and a pair of African

presidents. Acquaintances his high-flying followers sun? They will ultimately scattclaim that the supernatural through flattery and appeals to ter and truth will prevail." In powers of which Chandraswamy boasts - mind-reading, prediction and spell-casting -pale beside his ability to dupe

their greed.

"I have never done anything wrong," he once protested.

ter and truth will prevail." In India, plenty of politicians are dreading the day when the truth about their links to the

Yeltsin promises talks on Chechnya

PHIL REEVES

Boris Yeltsin and his Foreign Minister, Yevgeny Primakov, both made fresh moves to clear the nath for negotiations over the Chechen war yesterday - underlining their desperation to convince voters they can solve the conflict before it further damages the President's re-

election prospects.

But Mr Yeltsin, who has promised to settle the affair before next month's election, also conceded it was possible that nothing will result until after the poll. There may be a "delay" in the outcome of any talks because the issue is "far from simple", he said during a campaign visit to Yaroslavl, north-east of Moscow.

The beleaguered President, who trails the Communist leader, Gennady Zyuganov, in most polls, said he intended to announced a formula for a settlement in Cheehaya during a visit to the republic later this month. He said talks would involve three parties - the Moscow-backed Chechen government, the Russian federation. and separatist leaders - although it is unclear whether the

latter would agree to take part. Mr Yeltsin has made clear that he was not willing to grant complete independence to Chechnya, But Mr Primakov appeared to take a more flexible line. "Everything is negotiable. all questions can be put on the table, including any kind of status for Chechnya, he said. However, it is understood he is

still against full independence. He made his remarks in Strasbourg where he was attending a meeting of foreign ministers from the Council of Europe, which admitted Russia

as a member earlier this year. But the Kremlin appears to be genuinely pushing for a set-tlement in Chechnya in the hope of limiting the damage of the 17-month conflict which has claimed more than 30,000 lives and has led to the destruction of its capital, Grozny.

It remains questionable whether Chechen rebel leader. Zelimkhan Yandarbeyiv, can enter talks so soon after last month's death of his predecessor, Dzhokhar Dudayev, without



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Aznar takes power with pledge to give it away ate them". To achieve this, "con- Perhaps Mr Gonzalez was is a historic achievement - even

ELIZABETH NASH Madrid

Spain's conservative Popular Party leader, Jose Maria Aznar, who narrowly won general elections two months ago, yesterday promised a dramatic transfer of power from Madrid to the regions that he predicted "could unleash a process without historical precedent".

Laying out his programme for government before MPs, Mr Aznar proposed "a new territorial arrangement of power that recognises and respects the different peoples of Spain. their diversity, heterogeneity

sensus was more than an aim. it was a necessity". He also insisted on the urgent

need for economic austerity, essential to fulfil the criteria for European monetary union, he said, and to "make up for lost time". But he promised that this too would be achieved through dialogue and consensus.

The outgoing prime minister, Felipe Gonzalez, making his first opposition speech for 13 years, welcomed Mr Aznar's conciliatory tone. He promised he would be critical, but would not trade in insults and devoted much of his reply to em-

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keeping his powder dry, but it if this united front is not guarwas sweetness and light in the anteed to hold. For the moment, first face-off for months between Spain's two leading politicians. "This legislature is going to be much less tense and much more fun than the last," he noted at one point, to laugh-

Mr Aznar is assured of winning the vote today that will instal him as prime minister after sealing pacts with Spain's principal regional forces: nationalists from Catalonia, the Basque country and the Canary Islands. In doing so, he has for the first time united Spain's de-

ter and applause.

however, Mr Aznar has secured 25 crucial parliamentary votes that deliver him an absolute majority. At the heart of his pro-

gramme lies a formula for increasing regional autonomy, under which Spain's 17 regions will retain 30 per cent of income tax raised in each region. But the details, including a mechanism to prevent the poorer regions from losing out, remain to be worked out.

This commitment, the product of his deal with the Catalan

ed by any government since the 1978 post-Francoist constitution that recognised the rights of Spain's regions and peoples. It buries what was until 4 March, the day after election day, the most conspicuous legacy of the PP's Francoist origins: the commitment to a centralised "Españolista" system of rule.

Mr Aznar's choice of words yesterday, his assurance that each region should reach the maximum levels of self-gov-ernment", his appeal to "all Spaniards and peoples of Spain", mark an about-turn in approach that reveals the hall-

jol's Convergence and Union party. The five MPs of the Basque Nationalist Party (PNV) finally decided this week to climb aboard, after the PP promised to enact in full a devolution deal agreed by the Socialists but not completed. Mr Aznar promised public

spending cuts, deregulation, privatisation and the simplification of bureaucracy that was stifling small businesses, all with the aim of combating "our great national problem"- unemployment, the worst in Europe. Pensions and welfare provisions would be protected. but Mr Aznar demanded more

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Poland struggles to shape up for Europe

European businessmen outnumber the tourists in the narrow streets of Warsaw's impeccably restored old city. Investors from France, Sweden, and Germany pender their fig-ures over a coffee in the newly privatised Telmina café. "I am getting into textiles," says a Swede. "Iburism," says a German. "I am into tourism."

Poland looks attractive to European investors. More than 5.000 new foreign companies are investing in Poland every year, according to government figures, and the Polish airline Lot reports an 85 per cent rise tween London and Warsaw this

Polish ministers argue that the country is now so advanced that it is ready to join the European Union by 2000.

Grzegorz Kolodko, the Minster of Finance, reels off the fig-Photograph: Christopher Pollitz/Network ures of the "soaring eagle",

EU entry will be granted when it suits Brussels, writes Sarah Helm in Warsaw

boasting \$52bn (£35bn) in for-alongside the tractor, and agricign investment last year cultural modernisation has scarcely begun. More than 35 per cent of Poles still live on the Poland's deficit is now below the 3 per cent ceiling set for menbership of European Moneland, with half of these detary Union, he says. In 1993 inflation in Poland was 38 per pending wholly on farming for their livelihoods. In many areas, cent and today it is 17 per cent. Average salaries are \$300 a the average farm is about three acres, and the landscape is a month and look set to rise to patchwork of tiny strips. The European Commission has es-\$500 by 2000.

But how do EU decisionmakers view Poland and the nine other potential members from central and eastern Europe? Polish officials dream of entry in 2000, and some predict 2002, but a date has yet to be set. In Warsaw the transformation of the economy is evident. But in some areas of the countryside, unemployment is as high as 35 per cent. The horse and cart is still a common sight

current level of the Spanish economy in 2030. We cannot be happy with that, says Henryka Bodmiarz, president of Nices cultural modernisation has a leading Polish consulting

In the end, the EUs big powers will not be too concerned about economic factors when they make their decision about the timing of enlarge-ment. "Spain. Portugal and Greece were all poor as church mice when they joined. Portugal's agriculture is still almost medieval," said one commission

Nor will member states take too much notice of the ever greater warnings that time is running out to cement the new democracies. The fact that former communists have taken power in Poland seems to wor-

These new communists know that it does not pay to be old fashioned communists.

in Western Europe." accept the new members was taken by the EU in 1993. The decision on timing will largely be a political decision, to be taken once existing members have traded off their own particular

outside until the ponderous political machine of Brussels

timated that it would cost the EU agricultural budget 10-15 billion ecu (£8-12bn) to aid the official. farmers of the 10 prospective members under existing support The biggest of the new applicants, with nearly 40 million people, Poland has always been the self-appointed leader of the prospective new members, and clamours louder than any ry nobody in Brussels. to be let in first. Germany, which

wants Poland as a buffer state,

has always put the country at the

top of the new members list. Other member states, meanwhile, have argued that if se-

curity is the main concern, better let the Baltic states in first, where the threat from

Russia is clearly much more

real. The very size of Poland also

meant it was going to be the hardest for Europe to swallow.

Despite Poland's economic

successes, there are rumblings

in the corridors of EU capitals

that under the new communist government, privatisation may be slowing down. The Polish

government says that inflation stands at 17 per cent, but banks say it is the figure is more than

Poland's own business com-

munity sends out warning sig-nals about a new reluctance

among the post-communist

regime to see through radical re-

20 per cent.

They know the previous system has been broken," says Peter Ludlow, director of the Centre for European Policy Studies. "As for self-perpetuating of garchies, they are not unknown The decision in principal to

foreign policy and trade interests and carved up the Brussels budget.
The Union must also complete the painful task of reforming its institutions to make room for the new members. Poland, therefore, can bang on the door as much as it likes. but will still be made to wait

Zappa takes his place in nation *e* for the wacky

Never mind free and fair elections, independent judiciaries or respect for ethnic minorities. A better known for his depictions of the likes of Lenin and other communist heroes. country can only be declared truly democratic if its leaders are

big enough to allow the exection of a monument to the late, lamented Frank Zappa. That, at least, is the theory of Saulius Paukstys, a 31-year-old Lithuanian photographer who, in his private life, doubles up as

President of the country's thriving Frank Zappa club. In a visit to California in 1992, Mr Paukstys was actually grant-ed a brief audience with the zany rock star, whose anti-establishment stance made him a cult figure in Lithuania and much of eastern Europe during Soviet times.

Zappa's death from cancer one year later hit Mr Paukstys and fellow devotees hard and in a flash of inspiration he vowed to erect a lasting memorial to his great mentor. "We have lots of busts and statues to long dead Lithuanian poets and artists and I suddenly thought, why not put one up to Zappa^{ny} he says.

Okay, so Zappa never visited Lithuania and had absolutely

no connection with the country, but as far as I was concerned this was a test of our new found freedom. Lithuania had just proclaimed itself to be a democratic country. I wanted to test it and see if I would be able to realise my ideas."

Having gathered signatures from artists, writers and younger members of the Lithuanian parliament, Paukstys presented a petition to the city government requesting permission to build a bust of Zappa outside the Vilnius art academy. Perhaps surprisingly, the authorities agreed. Teachers at the academy.

however, were less keen, fearing that a memorial to a man still revered for his anti-establishment songs could corrupt the innocent minds of students. In the end, the location was changed, but, with a \$1,000 raised for its construction, the

stone bust on top of its 4-me-tre high stainless steel column was duly unveiled late last year. Zappa himself would no doubt have enjoyed the irony of the ceremony, which included a stirring performance by the city's military band, a firework a stirring performance by the city's military band, a firework display, and plenty of toasts to seen anything like it in my life." 70-year-old local sculptor Konstantinas Bogdanas, previously

Paukstys claims that the bust. which shows a pony-tailed Zappa in rather sombre mood in the later years of his life, is the first of its kind in the world. It is not, however, the first example of a propensity among Lithuanians

to embrace the whacky. In 1992 the country's basketball team defeated Russia to take bronze medal at the Barcelona Olympics - and then turned up for the awards ceremony in psychedelic T-shirts donated by the legendary rock

band, The Grateful Dead. When the band's former lead singer, Jerry Garcia, died last year, the Lithuanian prime minister sent a personal note of con-



Frank Zappa: Rock star honoured with statue

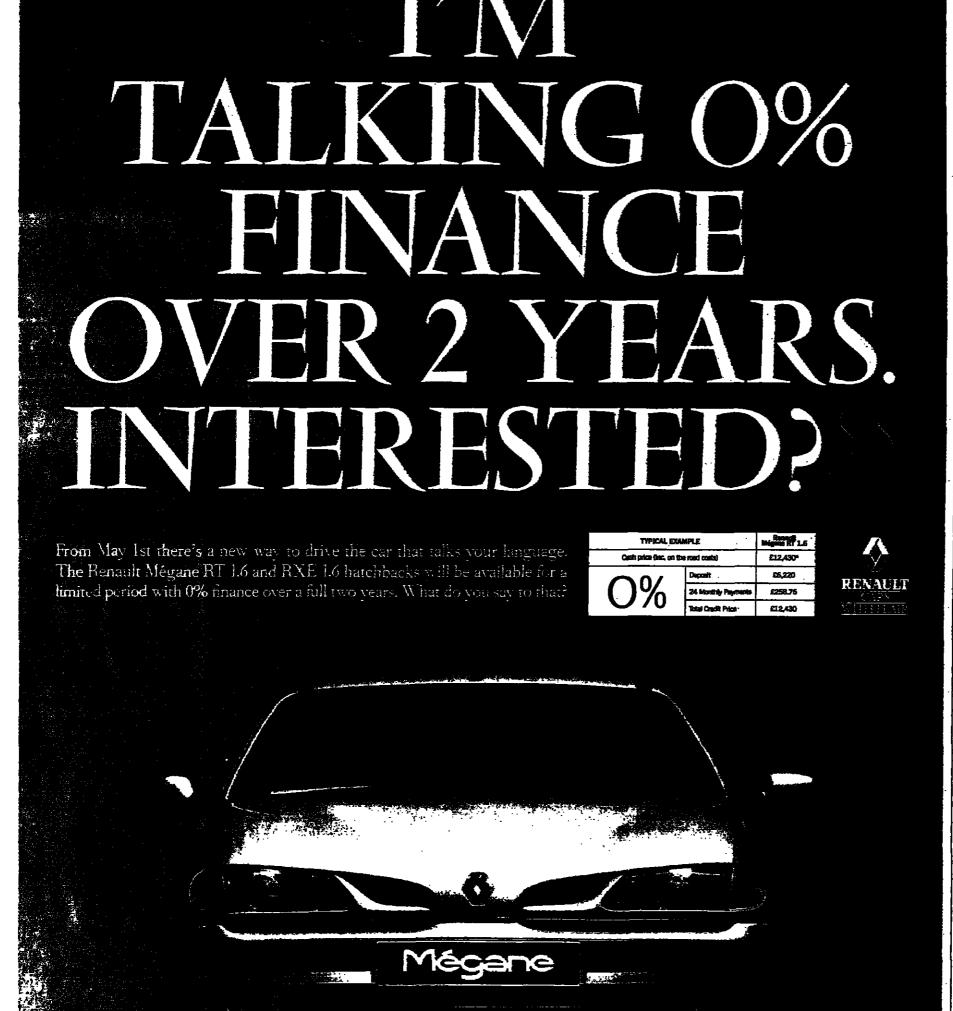
dolence and his spokesman said that Lithuania had been proud to have such a famous band as sponsor.

More recently, Vilnius has chalked up another first with the opening of a bar named "Nato's" - a celebration of the Western military alliance which Lithuania aspires to join.

When Nato Secretary-General Javier Solana visited the Baltic states last month he was taken inside "Nato's" which, in addition to a display of guns, grenades and mock missiles, has menu which boasts "Red Mine Caviar", "Demarcation Chicken" and "Remains of a Partisan".

This would clearly not be the place to bring Russian President Boris Yeltsin to lunch, but Mr Solana seemed cheerfully bemused. "This is a very particu-

Adrian Bridge



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لَكُذَا مِن أَلَاصِلُ

Small-town France is up for the cup - and the league, too. The unprecedented success of the 'paysay's' from Auxerre against big city rivals has become symbolic of a divided nation, says Mary Dejevsky

As dusk gathers this evening, 22 players will take the field at the Parc des Princes stadium in Paris for a cup final unlike any other. It is not only that the two teams contesting the match -Auxerre and Nimes - were unfancied for the cup and that both come from out of town. It is that one of them, Auxerre, also heads the French league.

While England prepares to see whether the expensive big names of Manchester United -jean carry off both the Premier League and FA Cup, Auxerre, the team from a town of only 40,000 people, is on course to become the first small town in France to "do the double".

To arrive where it is today, Auxerre has slain a good numher of large dragons, including the southern ruffians of Olympique Marseille. But the signal event in its progress was the epic match on 30 March when it beat the fast-living, starstudded Paris Saint-Germain (PSG) 3-0 at home and snatched its place at the top of the league table. That was when all France found itself drawn into the battle for the double.

Five weeks on. Auxerre's football team finds itself carrying the aspirations of thousands, even millions, of determinedly non-metropolitan French people. And among the most prominent supporters is the screen idol Gérard Depardicu, who has followed the team's fortunes avidly.

Auxerre has come to represent the provinces versus Paris, the countryside versus the town, the "real" France against

against "them".

When the PSG supporters came to Auxerre, it is related, they spent much of the match they spent much of the match chanting scornfully, "Physans, paysans!" (peasants, peasants), at the opposing team. By the end of the match, the chant had been proudly taken up by the home supporters. "Paysans, paysans!" they yelled back, and proud of it With Averne as one proud of it. With Auxetre, as one French reporter noted recently, "you start by talking about foot-hall, and suddenly you find you are talking about France".

walled medieval city with a lopsided cathedral where Jean of Arc reputedly stopped is 1429 and whose second towersomehow never got built. The Yonne river flows placially below. You

the team on corse for the double, the excitment is tangible.

will be laid on fethe cup final. The populatio of Auxerre is young: almost 6 per cent are under the age of 0. The unemployment rate i well below the French average of almost 12

than two hours' drive from Paris, this is Burgundy. It does not have the feel of remoteness and neglect that often characterises rural France. It is genuine small-town France, esqui its living from flourishing farms orchards and vineyards; proud and self-sufficient. The town itself is a moc-

can still glimpse sloping woods and fields from the old own.

In late spring, wth the cherry and apple treesin blossom, Auxerre looks life every small French town ught to look. It is washed anchrushed almost fanatically. Its ing road has flower borders and the unmistakeable souns of piano practice waft through the air. The cobbled street are lined with small shops, in the jew-ellers' windows, at the clocks and watches are so at the right time, and the trajeurs unselfconsciously disply all manner of animal parts it eating. The place of sport, but especially football, is at sice apparent. There are mor sports equipment shops that any one small town could resonably expect to support. Ad just now, with

Big white tinners have been hung over whi were once the town gates, poclaiming when and where Axerre is next at home. A highstreet chocolate shop - Monsior Fialaix, who won the "firstprize for white chocolate at ie Montelimar international qocolate fair" has festooned is window with the football tem's blue and white ribbons ad does a pop-ular line in choolate footballs: Fr24 for the snallest, up to Fr300 and beyod for the larger ones. Fly-shees everywhere advertise the spcial train that

Auxerre and its surrounding per cent. There money, but region is French heartland. Less not overt wealth, wer the past



Guy Roux, who says his team has had to beat the media's Paris bias: 'It's a question of the dominated against the dominant, the colonised against the colonialist'

two decades, the city council has encouraged the football team as an asset that promotes Anxerre and puts it on the national, even international, map. It publishes figures attestother benefits it says the team's success has brought.

The policy is not universally popular. "Sometimes you think that maybe the money would be better spent on housing or help-ing poor people," a young woman at the Chamber of Commerce hazarded. "No, not everyone thinks it's so wonderful. The fact is, though, that a great many Auxerrois are fully behind their team, and the mayor was voted back last June, when many a long-serving French mayor was drummed from office. What is more, the recently built 20,000-seater stadium has been filled to capacity for its last

three home matches. The secret of Auxerre's success, however, lies not just in the town's youthful population, its

relative affluence, or the support of the town council. Much of it can be put down to one man: Guy Roux, the 57-year-old team manager. He has been in his job for 34 years - surely a record for to the battered vinyl and ing to the commercial and a football manager - and took

> Among the team's most avid followers is the film idol Gérard Depardieu

the team steadily from the fifth to the first division, from where it has never once been relegated. Roux is a smallish, roundish and hugely dynamic man whose reputation precedes him wherever he goes. He is gruff and charming by turns, speaks his mind and owes nothing to any-one. For the record, he is also

the man who "discovered" Eric Cantona as a 15-year-old in Marseille - and kept him at Auxerre for seven years. "Eric," Roux said, pointing



office beside the training pitch, would always sit there. Always. He is a big character, a strong character, very intelligent. He would come in, and we would just talk, for an hour or more."

There are many myths sur-rounding Roux. It is said, for instance, that he patrols outside his players' hotel rooms before

big matches to make sure they stay in and don't keep the wrong company. "Yes, that's true," he said. "You see, many of the players are just young kids really; they need discipline."

Then from the subject of his players' discipline he went off at what appeared to be a tangent: You know the worst thing that happened to our country? May 1968, the student revolt, that's what. Two generations of young people have been ruined. After that, young people didn't see why they should take any instructions from anyone. Discipline went completely to pieces. It was a catastrophe, and the effects are still being felt."

How about reports that he forbids his players from buying fast, showy cars because it gives the wrong impression. "No," he countered quickly, "I don't forbid them." He paused. "But I do advise them. The thing is that people who come to football matches aren't rich and they have to pay for their ticket out

of their hard-earned income. If erre only came to national they see that the players of this small town are driving round in new cars and changing them are based in Paris; nothing every few months they resent it, Roux has long set himself up

as a father-figure to aspiring youngsters. The pitches of the Abbe Deschamps sports complex are dotted with small footballers being coached by Aux- mail from all over France? erre players. Roux often goes to watch after supervising the team session. He picked most of hisfirst team as youngsters and had them work their way up. He is famously tightfisted and does not buy ready-made

A widespread idea of Roux as a country bumpkin naive in the ways of the world, however, is far from the truth. When you ask Roux about the notion that Auxerre has somehow come to represent the "real" France against the big city, he agrees wholeheartedly. It was utterly predictable, he said, that Auxattention when it beat Paris Saint-Germain: "All the media really counts for them unless it affects Paris. In that, it's a question of the dominated versus the dominant; the colonised against the colonialist.

His desk is a mountain of post. Is it true that he gets fan "Yes, and hate mail too - after we beat Marseille, you should have seen the letters.

This afternoon, Auxerre's supporters will set off in their special train for the big match in Paris. They are expected back at 3am. If they win, Auxerre are almost sure of the double - they are four points clear in the league, with only two games still to play. But even if they fail, the defiant chants of "Paysans, paysans" will continue to echo through small-town France for a very long time. And you can guarantee that Auxerre will be back next year.

Jo Brand's week

It is our final show in Sydney this week. Reaction his been pretty good and we have not been savaged by the press. However, one oman in the audience obviously thought I was taking "The Wreck Of The Heserus" look too far. She was heard to remark to a friend, "I'm sure that Io rand has put talcum powder in her hair to make herself look older." I wish, reminded me that in my youth, dry shampoo was quite popular for a while until everyone realised it made them look like they had severe dandruffas far as any attempts I might make to make myself look worse than Io are concerned, they are a very long way off. Following a serious brush withair dye several years ago which turned me into a blind Elephant Woman r four days, I just left my hair to do what it wanted, but I'm not giving it a heing hand.

There are slight differences in the use of the English language over here that give something of a cartoouish quality to news reports. For example, the word "beaten" tends to get replaced by the word 'bashed". Therefore, when you are reading a beadline such as 'Policeman bashed in Sydney", it is more reminiscent of the Beano than a serious newspaper report. Australians are equally contemptuous of some of our words. Apparently, we don't pronounce vitamin or maroon (ie, "marone") properly, and we say duvet instead of "doona", Still, perhaps we'll all fall into line when we start talking the universal language ... American.

The Sydney Morning Herald chose to reveal a few choice facts about Fergie this week, including her obsession with psychic forecasts and the information that she stopped taking Prozac to enjoy sex more.

Many women seem to cling desperately to mysticism to reveal their future, which is probably an indicator of how keen they are to change their present situation. I think this is another way of avoiding taking responsibility for one's actions, something that, until recently, women , have been forced into doing. Fergie was spending 30 hours a week, apparently, indulging in attempts to predict her fate. A quick glance at the papers might have been easier.

As for her Prozac experience, is

there anyone in Brin who is not taking it? I thoughte'd got past the stage where doctors we drugs on demand, but so man eople I know are popping Prozac, theory, this country should be liketropia, with lots of happy bunnies jumig around and enjoying their lives. But having a jump, apparently, as it acts libido.

I thought Mary Whiteho, had been quiet for a long time, so ias reassuring to see her pop and snarl at the recently deceased Duis Potter's latest televisual treat. I have seen it but I am sure there was pley there for her to get her teeth into. Poold Mary W...she's so predictable. Vidn't it be great if just the once she loved the



odd F-word and laid into Antique Roadshow for its encouragement of human greed. Or perhaps she could direct her wrath at Songs Of Praise, because most of the congregation are just trying to get their phizogs on telly. The problem with Mary is that she has become such an institution that people aren't surprised when she flies in on the coat-tails of a well-aimed punch or a peeping penis. It's important to keep your detractors on their toes. Come on, Mary - shock us.

I would also be very shocked if for five minutes Virginia Bottery stopped

trumpeting her lottery as if it was some God-given personal triumph she alone had dreamed up. She is obviously overcome with deep joy as well, because she can call various Labour MPs, who are not so keen, "hypocrites", because their constituencies are receiving money. It's so black and white in Toryland. A few quid to paint a community centre in St Albans does not wipe out the thousands of desperate, poor people spending their last few quid in a hopoless attempt to pull themselves out of hell. Still, I suppose it keeps them quiet on a Saturday. Doesn't it, Virg?

Some poor policeman in England got into trouble with his hairstyle this beek after he transferred out of multi nd went back on the beat. The style infolved a ponytail, which is not acceptable on the streets. Worse, it was not even a tidy ponytail, having been described by the Met representative as "not attractively groomed" and like "a doctored dog's tail".

I know how the poor guy feels. If you are in a position such as nurse or policeman, you are constantly called upon to live up to a stereotype. I proudly admit that as a psychiatric murse, I was a total scruffbag and the despair of the nursing hierarchy. However, the people we dealt with in the psychiatric emergency clinic didn't give a toss. After all, having a tidy bob and a smart suit never helped anyone acretely arrious to feel column. acritely anxious to feel calmer.

I was sent a letter warning me that the Oxfam look was unacceptable and I'd better twin-suit up or I'd be out of a iob. I banded in my resignation and (thank God) the contents of the fashion-obsessed bosses' letter were immediately retracted. It wouldn't happen now and that's why I'm glad I got out of the health service when I did. When my career falls apart and I go back, I hope a Labour government less bsessed with looks over substance will let me breeze back looking like Worzel Gummidge. Let's hope they've thrown out the shoulder pads by then.



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What Middle England wants: the Grumpy Party

Middle England isn't a real place with grid ref-lerences - Basildon in the east, Harrogate in the north, Bournemouth in the south, Worcester in the west. Middle England is more like something in the air, a background moan. That moan rose to one of its periodic crescendes this week in the district council elections. No amount of psephological tweaking could disguise the routing of the Tories; their supporters show no signs of returning to the fold before the main event. Where there is affection for Tony Blair, it is love

on the rebound. And highly conditional at that. Middle England has not converted to the milkand-water precepts of New Labour. The mood music is a sort of terchy, on-edge Philip Glass. Labour may take some pleasure from these results, but it would be unwise to take too much. The electoral justice of Middle England might ordain that the pendulum should swing. Party pref-erences might shift to Labour. But beneath all that, there is a different movement that should worry both parties: the next general election will be fought amid harsh disapproval of the political sys-

tem as a whole.

It is still difficult to see where this disaffection might lead. Some optimistic analysts believe it could eventually lead to institutional reform. But the picture is mixed. First-past-the-post voting is more popular now than a decade ago, but more people want to reform the House of Lords and see the Scots achieve some form of independence or devolution. Yet Charter '88, the constitutional reform lobby group, would secure little name recognition in Tesco in Tewkesbury.

No. New Labour's mood might have been

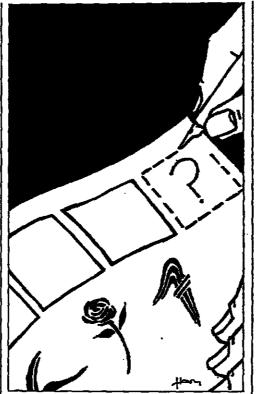
improved by the results, but the mood of the country is not positive. The country is disgruntied and grumpy. Seventeen years of Conservative government have sawn through many of the planks on which identity and security are built -and they include a reliable public water supply, and Aunt Sally British Rail as well as Essex County Council. This sense of anxiety has a material base. "Downsizing" is about more than job cuts. We are "downsizing" our expectations, coming to terms with long-run deflation, slower growth and stagnant living standards. It means ceasing to think of houses as appreciating assets which, for all the pressure of negative equity in parts of the country, most of us still do. Through-out the 19th century, rich and poor rented, for the very good reason that other more liquid assets offered a higher return. Downsizing means inten-sified competition for secure jobs, and that in turn means aspiring for one's children's future in dramatically different terms from the way our own parents pictured ours.

It is not that Basildon is suddenly worse off.

Real incomes are still rising; unemployment is under 8 per cent. In Oxfordshire, it is just over half that, but the Tories still lost heavily on Thursday. People are spending; we reported the other day the dense penetration of British households by personal computers. Useful and fascinating they may be, they are not a necessity of life, even for families with games-playing 11-year-olds.

The Tories are right. If the "feel-good" factor

was based on objective indices, they ought to see their flock turning away from Blainte temptation. But how little we know about the subterranean



causes of changes in sentiment. It is partly a mat-ter of expecting things to worsen, Middle England starts to fear for its old age; who will pay for care? Will pensions be enough to support the designated lifestyle? Will the children of dislocated families rally round? Who will pay for post-school educa-tion with all this talk of loans and students having to contribute toward tuition costs, and what kind of jobs will this education lead to? Once, the expansion of the "service class" - middle-income sup-pliers of services - seemed unstoppable But now? Well, listen to Martin Mears, the controversial president of the Law Society. His noisy footstamping is the sound of the backwoodsmen of a profession fighting competition, simultaneously wanting to restore the respect and trust of the public and yet force the public to pay more for similar and yet force the public to pay mo

ple legal services. As yet, this edgy, tetchy mood has not found full political voice. Euroscepticism picks up some of the mood but its exponents are still too shill to really command the political agenda. The Tory pot does contain some of the ingredients that could go into a populism opposed to economic insecurity - xenophobia, cultural authoritarianism, Tebbitism. But it also contains economic liberalism which promotes markets and competition the very bearers of insecurity for many. (The intra-bility of the elements which make up that party looks daily ever greater.)
We gaze across the Atlantic and wonder about

the scope here for a Perot businessman-as-saviour or Buchaman-protectionist-populist. Sir James Goldsmith rides across the Channel on his piebalt charger. Mohamed al-Fayed looms over Knights

bridge. But what strange mixtures they are - one a Jewish cosmopolite, the other an Arab with attitude who has gone left rather than right to find political leverage against the establishment which fears and despises him in equal measure. Yet despite these new arrivals on the political scene, it is difficult to imagine a full-blown Perotism or Buchananism emerging in Britain's more sedate,

The ideological tenor of the times is hard to eatch. There may be scope for a "left" response to discontent and dismay, a turn back toward collectivist solutions, taxes on the very wealthy, reregulation to protect middle-class jobs. In an anxious California in the early Thirties, demagogues promised a chicken in every pot; perhaps Essex would warm to an earnings-related pension for every 65-year-old, paid for by a thick slice into corporate dividends or incomes over £50,000 a year. Who could definitively rule out a political future for neo-egalitarianism?

As yet neither the right, with all its contradic-

tions, nor the left, with its new-found caution about not raising expectations too high, fully addresses this mood of grumpiness head on. As a result, there is a sense that politics is not doing its job fully, when something profound and powerful about the nation's mood is not expressed. Yet perhaps we should be grateful that populism has not made further headway. Billericay is never going to be the breeding ground of political passion. But this carping and resentful mood is likely to survive the defeat of the Tories and the advent of Labour. We have probably found the Big Idea of the latter part of the decade - grumpiness.

■ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ■

'Jerusalem': counterblast from Scotland's green and pleasant land Civic 'fraud'

nation do have their place, but the words of "Jerusalem" are wholly irrelevant in a Scottish context (Letters, 1 May).

Ministry in the Church of Scotland, I warmly welcome the proposals of the Kirk's Panel on Worship to replace the 1973 Clurch Hymnury (Third Edition) with a new hymn book. The CH3 has proved an inadequate source, the result being that many congregations still use the 1927 Revised Church Hymnary supplemented by contemporary works such as Mission Praise. The primary pur-pose of hymn singing is to praise the living God, not for self-gratification, tradition or

I was dismayed by the offensive tone of Lord Broadbridge's letter. I have never heard the noble Lord speak, but there is a possibility that his accent is

toria to Dover Priory was held

up at Rochester for a quarter of

an hour this morning (30 April).

It was a beautiful morning. The

sun was shining. Not a hint of

the wrong sort of snow, of heav-

ier than usual rain, of craftily

falling leaves, of booligan ele-

ments aboard the train, of points

failure, of malfunctioning car-

riage couplings, of industrial

action, of fatalities on the line

heroically against a new and

even more insidious enemy:

the Wrong Sort of Passenger.

The delay, we were loudly and

proudly informed by our guard.

was due to the sudden discov-

ery on board our train of an

neither valid ticket nor pass-

port, and whom the police,

once they arrived on the scene,

would shortly be detaining.
The guard, with his

Orwellian telescreen-tones,

would clearly have felt most at

Sir: Your report on the Task

Force report on drug misusers (2 May) identifies a significant

boost for common sense within

the Government's drugs strat-

egy. The Department of Health

is to be commended for com-missioning this landmark study.

per cent in the last year alone

the effectiveness of the current

balance of government

resources between enforcement

involve a strengthened com-

mitment across a wider range of

government departments - to

include support targeted at

drug users from within employment and training, housing and

regeneration programmes.
ROGER HOWARD

Chief Executive

London SE1

Standing Conference on Drug Abuse

reconsideration.

Yet with drug addiction up 13

Common sense

on drug abuse

'illegal immigrant" who held

No, this morning the dying remnants of British Rail battled

Orwellian incident on the 8.33

Sir. The 8.33 service from Vic-home on the Deutsche Reichs-

sioner were to make such comments about England, there would no doubt be an outcry from the Eurosceptics; mean-As a student training for the while Scotland has had to endure an appalling Conservative government unelected by of Lords elected by nobody.
The Church of Scotland,

given its Presbyterian system of church government, with congregational Kirk Sessions, 49 area Presbyteries and the annual General Assembly each with authority in their own areas, is a model of democratic federalism. Maybe such familiarity is a reason why a federal Europe and a federal Britain (including a Scottish Parliament) is attractive to many Scots.

MATTHEW Z Ross Edinburgh

bahn in the late 1930s, and evi-

dently expected all respectable

passengers to applaud his patri-otic intervention. But instead

there were exclamations of

shock, of disbelief, of anger

too. Anger that even a national

institution as charmingly inept

and slapdash as British Rail had

finally been poisoned by the

culture of frightening intoler-

ance and creeping authoritari-

Sir. Hymns interceding for the a European Union commis- panel's decision to announce as the United Reformed that some hymns may need to be removed, what is distasteful is Lord Broadbridge's personal comment about the Rev Charles Robertson, a man he has apparently never met (Letters, I May). The Rev Robert-Scots and the uncouth mutter-ings of legislators in the House is one of those liturgists notorious for his resistance to fads of political correctness. To suggest that he is either smallminded or idiotic advances rea-

The issues raised by those charged with preparing a new hymnary are concerned with shifts in culture and language. Not everyone will find feminist challenges to the well-known words and forms congenial, but we cannot wish them away. It is the responsibility of those who prepare worship to find language that will reflect the good, the true, and the beautiful in equal measure. Gender-incluweird, amusing or even incomprehensible to Scottish ears. If Church of Scotland hymnary threaten any of these concerns, the Church of Scotland for Sevenoaks, Kent

soned debate not one whit.

Church demonstrated in its 1990 hymnary Rejoice and Sing. Six years ago, the Joint Litur-

gical Group of Great Britain produced a collection of papers and essays entitled Singing the Faith. Much of what it said then rehearsed the issues confronting those who oversee the production of new hymn books. Interested readers can make themselves informed critics by reading that book or Brian Wren's What Language Shall I Borrow?.

In the meantime I hope that Lord Broadbridge, whom I have never met, has the opportunity to attend the Kirk of Canongate, where the Rev Robertson exercises a ministry distinguished by decency, order and the affection of his parishioners.

The Rev Dr Paul P J SHEPPY Barnoldswick, Lancashire

over 50 years, and an organist for nearly 30. During that time, I have neither sung "Jerusalem", nor been asked to play it. Far from dropping a well-loved hymn for "politically correct" reasons, might I suggest that our hymnary com-

mittee have rightly concluded

that the hymn has simply fallen

Stenton, Lothian

Sir: Why be surprised the Church of Scotland no longer offers to build Jerusalem in England's green and pleasant

> May D Berry Bognor Regis, West Sussex

Sir: I have had difficulty in treating this hymn seriously since someone said to me, "The answer to the first verse is 'No'. to the second 'Fetch them your-

in Hackney

Sir. Your report on Bernard Crofton ("Housing chief is fraud and liar says report", 1 May) raises more questions than it answers.

If Bernard Crofton was, or is, guilty of fraud, at what point was Hackney council (leading Labour councillors and senior ISABEL M J JEFFREY officers) aware of this? If it was prior to his suspension in October 1994, why was he not also charged with fraud and the evidence presented to the disciplinary sub-committee last

> Your report refers to the "Blue Document" which, after interviewing Andrew Arden QC, Ian MacDonald QC is reported to dismiss as "untrue and fabricated". In view of the importance of that document in the appeal hearing, why was Andrew Arden QC either unable or unwilling to give evi-

dence to the appeal panel? You refer to the names of 600 employees being secretly occurrence. Thightfully, they passed to the Immigration | are keen to recommend ways in Department for checking. Whilst there is no denying that names were passed to the Immigration Department, the only person to have publicly linked this with Bernard Crofton was Brian Sedgemore MP, who hid behind parliamentary privilege to do so. I am still waiting to see him make this allegation without the use

of parliamentary privilege. I cannot comment on the MacDonald report as I have not yet received a copy but if I, or indeed any Hackney councillor, is going to take it seriously, it will need to provide full documentation to back up the allegation that Bernard Crofton is a "fraud and liar".

Clir KEVIN DAWS Leader of the Opposition, London Borough of Hackney London EC1

Yearning for

I do not wish to make a party point, but, as a resident of Gravesham, I increasingly depair at being represented by a man who simply shouts, bays, and whines, and who sits in the Commons like a malign school-

that we can replace Mr Arnol with a more worthy represe tative possessing at least so dignity and gravitas. Professor PHILIP STO

Arrest me

Sir. A spectator at a foball match has been found gry of using "threatening won and behaviour" for sweari and 3.264 similar offences to be taken into consideration. PAUL FOX

Hanow.

birth certificates and passports. | missioning increases

AARONOVITCH

Lentitled "tle 10 Most Unpopular Piecs of Advice to Give to English 'eople", number four or live after "always give up your set for a for-eigner and the pys are playing soccer in the sreet again, I suggest you mov your car") might be "save fater - pave

over your lawn".
Yet this is exally what Severn Trent Water concerned about its ability o service its customers this smmer - has done in a leafletirculated this week. The commany believes a vast number of queries and the British clime is changing, responses under headings like which will mea that summer droughts becope a regular which gardene can adapt to

these altered dcumstances. Cue conditionations by Labour MPs (ho scent more middle-class dtrage over the depradations (privatised utilities) and staments of defi-ance from law-loving retired bank manage throughout the Midlands. Trir fathers and grandfathersfought against somebody-on ther precisely to prevent the wns of England

being paved er.
And there's indeed something worryg about all this.
What suggetons might other public serves and utilities come up wi for ways in which we can use heir product more efficiently low about the local health trus "Accident? Ever thought abut self-suturing?", South We Rail's "Save space. Sit on map. Or, best of all, and mosmiversal: "Children?

Why boler?"
Oddoo, that confirmation of the spact of global warming shild come in a fiver from Sever Irent, and not from John Summer's lot over at Environment. Call me oldfashined, but I still believe rashined, our 1 sun beneve thalne of Government's few regining functions is to tell ciens when they are about to both by meteorites, catapulted is global war or plunged into few los Age.

lew Ice Age. But this does not make Sevn Trent wrong. For, however apertinent their advice may boy at one of the rear desks. Ie, life in this country would be Gravesham is an increas-much better if gardeners did ingly fine borough, and I crave indeed get rid of their lawns.

I you were a compile a list Lawns are wasteful of both water and time, are environmentally damaging, represent a threat to wildlife and look horrible.

Certainly, the amount of water that it takes to maintain a small piece of clipped sward is disproportionately great - no one contests that. But the time and effort expended on keeping it aerated, fertilised, moss-free, sanded, seeded and rolled is also preposterous. Tap into the Internet and you will discover that lawncare has more entries than blow-jobs. One advice page lists responses under headings like "Moles", "Quackgrass", "straw over re-seeded patch" and the sinister "seeding over dead sod Christian burial, say I.

Lawn obsessives are not just sad in themselves, but dangerous. They pour pesticides on their grass, maim hedgehogs with their strimmers and regularly clutter up casualty departments after their rotary mowers have shot up their legs and inflicted damage.

And for what? For yet another regular patch of dull, short grass, in a country that is not exactly short on grass (if you look down from a plane its practically all you can see).

But the most beautiful gardens in the world, like the Generalife at the Alhambra in Granada, have no grass at all. Every inch is used for flowers, stone-flagged nooks, fountains and benches. There is a surprise - a delight - at every turn. The great British lawn is open, regular and unintriguing, a flattening of nature, rather than a harnessing of it.

So why do we do it, this lawning? Like so much else it is a product of Victorian stiffness and displayed civic virtue. A big, short lawn bespeaks tidiness, hard work and a concern for the good opinion of others. In America "lawn-care operators' have been showing businesses a report from the Centre For Communication Dynamics, illustrating the benefits of keeping a neat lawn: "It indicates that you are safety and environmentally conscious, a good neighbour and well-managed."

Humbug! Pave it over right

a new MP

Sir: I am writing to thank David Aaronovitch ("The Diva from Hell", 3 May) for his pointed parody of our dreadful Conservative MP for Gravesham, Mr Jacques Arnold.

an early election in the hope

RICHARD CORBETT Antwerp, Belgium

QUOTE UNQUOTE

It's difficult to go on public transport now. I used to enjoy going on the Tube because it's an actor's job to look at people. Now they look at me all the time - Richard Wilson, Victor Meldrew of TV's One Foot in the Grave

Few women in the public eye reach 40 without someone from their past "revealing all" to the tabloids - Selina Scott, television personality Mr Feeld, I am now going to insert this soft tube into your rec-tum - Doctor at the beginning of Dennis Potter's 'Karaoke'

and all changed over half-way through to watch the snooker - Mary ester Whitehouse, veteran TV clean-up campaigner and Potter for gesticulating at a Markester Whitehouse, veteran TV clean-up campaigner and Potter for United player (report, May). I'm always on a treadmill of having to keep going. A good year simtope the legal systems able by means that you have to pay more taxes – Felicity Kendal, access to cope with the weighood which will follow his precedent. I await a vifit from the authorities while asking for 3.264 similar offences to be

s, yes, yes, it is coming. No one can hide the sun with his fingers asser Arafat, PLO president, on the prospect of a Pulcatinian state u can't go in there, it's a restricted area - Rivers Howgill, duty rager at the Royal Albert Hall, as the building's two female ghosts appeared into the kitchens



Sittingbourne, Kent

Sir: Your coverage (3 May) of our advice on how to save water

missed the point.
The one lesson which we should all have learned following the extraordinary drought of 1995 was that water is a precious resource which cannot be wasted Severn Trent Water is delivering a £150m package of measures to ensure that we

and control (61 per cent) and We have also produced a leaflet for gardeners which offers treatment, care and education (38 per cent) needs urgent Common sense also includes not only investing more exten-sively in the drug services which are proven to save significant sums of taxpayers' money, but also a closer look at the social and economic factors underlying problem drug use. This will

anism that our government pro-Mr Howard's long-lost Romanian relatives would be well advised to hitchhike in future, should they ever have the misfortune to find themseives visitors in Britain. And whoever now actually runs the railways in this country should

be thoroughly ashamed of themselves for allowing their crisis-ridden service to become an instrument of what is beginning to resemble a police state. LAWRENCE KUGLIN

Water company's gardening advice

in the garden completely

have the water to meet all of our customers' needs this summer.

a range of sensible advice. It includes tips on drought resistant plants, ways to improve soil and how to keep your lawn looking good. It also suggests the use of paying or gravel as an alternative to grass - not a revolutionary idea, as a look at any residential street in England will confirm.

BRIAN DUCKWORTH Severn Trent Water Birmingham

Birds retreat from countryside scoured by farming Sir: After reading Nicholas a 6m strip at field edges or to Schoon's "Species put on survival 'red list' by farmers" (18 food for chicks. Crops here are Schoon's "Species put on sur-vival 'red list' by farmers" (18 April) and Duff Hart-Davis'

"All is well when the partridge flourishes" (27 April), I write with some observations from living next to arable farmland for 15 years.

The English grey partridge has disappeared in this time all is not well for farmland birds around here. I have seen no evidence of

the Game Conservancy's initiatives to create more sympathetic conditions on farmland

Sir. Gavyn Davies (29 April) is

guilty of perpetuating the myth that Maastricht imposes a limit

of 3 per cent on budget deficits. Three per cent is merely a ref-

erence value, such that the EU

makes an evaluation of the sit-

uation of states exceeding this

value in order to determine

whether their deficit can be

considered to be excessive.

she said. "When I realised that tors breached the 1976 Euro-have to amend legislation."

sprayed right up to the edges - indeed, these field edges receive extra herbicide at this time of year. Set aside areas are often

ploughed, harrowed, rolled or sprayed during May. This does not help ground-nesting birds. After harvest farmers "tidyup" field edges before plough-ing and resowing crops from September. This involves trim-

ming ditches and banks, levelling all plant growth (not just for game birds and thus for patches of thistles) and some-other species – no attempts to reduce spray damage by leaving hedges remain are also cut

account such factors as "gov-

ernment investment expendi-

ture" (ie public investment is

allowed even over 3 per cent)

and "the medium-term eco-

nomic and budgetary position"
(ie counter cyclical deficits are

also allowed). It requires a

qualified majority (more than

two-thirds of the votes) for

land are repeated farm after farm, parish after parish, which sadly seems to be the case, then bird species must con-tinue to decline since they, like us, need a habitat.

EU 3 per cent 'limit' on budget deficit is a fallacy tics (who like to portray the Maastricht converg as impossibly rigid) and fiscal conservatives (who want to reduce public deficits come what may) have led to much of the press referring to the 3 per cent as an absolute limit. It is a shame that your specialist columnist appears also to have been taken in by this fallacy.

larders" for birds but so are any

connecting rough strips of land.

be that they need to make a liv-

ing and therefore cannot afford to spare any land for conserva-

tion measures. This may be so.

However, it remains that if

these methods of treating the

Mrs A M BICKMORE

Attitudes of farmers seem to

Council to decide that a deficit is excessive.
A combination of Euro-scep-

Such an evaluation must, under the treaty, take into

A CONTRACT OF STATE O

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The angry shopkeeper

We should not underestimate the political ambition of the Harrods boss, says Chris Blackhurst

There are two sides to Mohamed al-Fayed, the owner of Harrods. There is the smiling, cuddly, favourite uncle figure who poses for shots at the opening of the store's sale. He looks like the cat who has got the cream, the man who owns the most famous store in Britain and possibly the world, who mixes with the Queen at the Royal Windsor Horse Show, which

In private, friends and visitors are treated to a quite different display. His language drops several notches until what is heard is a stream of expletives. Often he can be very funny, in a blokish, familiar sort of way. Comments about sex and the size of the male organ

are a speciality. But never far away, and increasingly apparent in recent months, is a smouldering anger. Mention the Government or certain ministers or Tory MPs and he erupts in fury. Once, his hatred was more or less solely directed against Roland "Tiny" Rowland, the steely former Lourho boss who fought him for years for control of Harrods. Now Tiny has gone - they shook hands, finally, in October 1993, under the stuffed shark with "Tiny" painted on its belly hanging from the roof of the Harrods Food Hall. Fayed's old adversary has been replaced by new enemies, whom he once sought as his friends.

His loathing for them goes much deeper than it ever did for Mr Rowland. Then, they were business rivals, sparring partners, who probably secretly relished a good scrap.

This is different; this is personal. It is all about, as he sees it, a foreigner who genuinely likes this country and wants to do some good here, who has been done down by the Government, by the establishment. It is about snobbery and acceptance, about powerful people closing ranks, about racism.

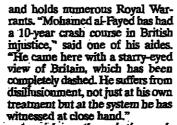
Al-Fayed, the big-time businessman, has discovered what it is like to be the little man. That cruel learning process, say his friends, has forced him to think seriously about forming a political party.

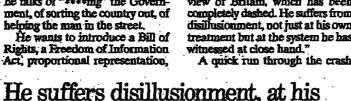
The idea appeals to him, but not, to his immense credit, out of per-sonal vanity. The manifesto drafted by his office contains not a hint of personal self-aggrandisement. It is a remarkable document, almost red, and most definitely Liberal Demo-

crat orange, in tone and content.
Until the Independent reported his intention last week, his talk was known only to a handful of his courtiers. Some could not take it seriously, believing a political party to be another of those wacky ideas he chucks out from time to time. Others counselled caution, to feel your way, start a think-tank, then see if you can go further.

Still others detected a desperate seriousness. In recent months, they have seen him rebuffed in his attempt to acquire citizenship for himself and his brother Ali, and fail, miserably, in acquiring a national newspaper. Yesterday, he received some solace by paying £3m for Viva!, the troubled radio station aimed at women.

For anyone who knows him, Vival, with an audience of just 500 at times, and Punch, also part of his new Liberty Publishing media venture, will not be enough. Constantly, he talks of "****ing the country out, of helping the same in the street. helping the man in the street. He wants to introduce a Bill of Rights, a Freedom of Information Act, proportional representation,





ing dynasty, strenuous efforts to get that report shelved come to nought, despite intensive wooing of Tory ministers, MPs and journalists, including putting them up at the Ritz; Mohamed saves the pound by persuading his friend, the Sultan of Brunei, not to switch into dollars: Mohamed gives millions to charity yet he still cannot acquire a British Surrounded by his faithful retainers in Knightsbridge, recently

A good mix? In public al-Fayed is the favourite uncle, in private another man emerges. Peter Macdiamic

strengthened by the addition of Stewart Steven, the former editor of the London Evening Standard, Mr Payed broods. He is convinced that the inspectors were appointed to appease Lourho, because ministers feared that the Observer, which Lonrho owned, would attack Mark Thatcher in the run-up to the 1987 general election. When the inspectors met, the Fayed side claims, his evidence was virtually ignored. Then, their report was leaked and the leak traced to Scotland Yard, yet nobody was ever prosecuted. "Mohamed can never understand what has happened to him," says a member of his circle.

There is, of course, another side to all this. Beginning with the war with Lonrho, he has used dirty tactics. A man who never gives up, his aggression and sheer persistence can be more off-putting than effective. He employs a small army of security men and a battery of lawyers. His reign at Harrods has been characterised by a revolving door of senior executives. He is extremely litigious.
The idea of reforming the coun-

try may appeal but his English is poor and he is not exactly surrounded by political heavyweights. It would be an error, though, to underestimate him. "His fundamental mistake was saying his origins were greater than they were," said a close friend, "but he still has the instincts of those origins. He may be vulgar but he has the common

The day the report of his wish to form a new party appeared, my taxi driver was lapping it up. "All the cabbies are behind Goldsmith but if he wants to do it, they might switch to him." His English may be poor but he speaks their language.

Did the assassin kill Israel's peace process?

The cost of Rabin's death is still being counted, says David Horovitz

Yigal Amir darted up behind Yitzhak Rabin and fired from point-blank range into the prime minister's back, woundmg him fatally as he loft a rally dedicated to rooting out violence from Israeli society.

If there was a crumb of comfort, it lay in the assumption that the peace process would not die with the prime minister. that his long-time rival-turned-partner, Shimon Peres, could step smoothly into the breach.

The safest way for Mr Peres to have ensured the continued backing of a majority of his countryfolk would have been to have called a general election immediately. Opinion polls showed 60 per cent of Israelis ready to put aside any reservations over the accords with the Palestinians and vote for him, if only, in many cases, to dissociate themselves from the right-wing vitriol that had led to the

assassination.

But, anxious not to plunge a shaken Israel into the further instability of a bitter campaign. Mr Peres eschewed the easy option. Since then, that 60 percent support has dwindled dipping lower each time Islamic extremists managed to smuggle a suicide bomber on to an Israeli bus - to the point where his lead over the only other prime ministerial candidate, the Likud's Benjamin Netanyahu, is

now only about 5 per cent. So while Mr Amir failed in his murderous bid to put an immediate halt to the peace process, he may yet turn out to have started a series of events that leads to the same conclusion. For, in removing Mr Rabin, the assassin deprived Israel of the leader best qualified to persuade the electorate of the viability of coexistence, a man whose peerless military record gave him unique credibility when advancing policies involving territorial compromise. Mr Peres badly lacks that credibility, lacks the centrist appeal that helped Mr Rabin to power in 1992, lacks his predecessor's unassailable self-confidence.

And if Mr Peres loses the election he has called for 29 May, and Mr Netanyahu takes over, there is every reason to believe that the peace process will come to a shuddering halt. For while Mr Netanyahu is a fickle politician, prepared to tailor his policies to fit the national mood, his cabinet

Exactly six months ago, on would be filled with stubborn hardliners — men like Rafael Anovember, the lithe figure of Eitan, the former chief of staff who says no peace treaty with an Arab state is worth the paper it's printed on, Ariel Sharon, the former defence minister who masterminded Israel's misguided 1982 inva-sion of Lebanon, and possibly even Rehavam Ze'evi, another former ex-military man who advocates the "voluntary transfer" of Palestinians from the West Bank to an unspecified destination elsewhere in the

Arab world. Mr Peres has so far fought a lacklustre election campaign -apparently relying on President Clinton's fulsome endorsement to win over voters - and is still struggling to shed the reputa-tion of a loser, having failed on four occasions in the Seventies

Mr Peres badly lacks the centrist appeal that helped Mr Rabin to power

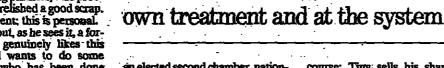
and Eighties to win the prime

ministership outright.
Worse still, Mr Peres's recent "Operation Grapes of Wrath" bombardment of Lebanon seems likely to cost him what would have been rock-solid support among Israel's 800,000strong Arab community. And his determination to press ahead with the Israeli army's imminent withdrawal from Hebron will alienate potential voters from the Orthodox Jewish community for whom the West Bank city, as the burial place of the biblical patriarchs, has particular significance.

Another wave of suicide bombings, or the resumption of Hizbollah Katyusha rocket fire across the northern border, would probably deal a fatal blow to Mr Peres's re-election

A few days after the assassination, Mr Peres pledged that he would win the 1996 elections "for your sake, Yitzhak". But when the polling stations close on 29 May, it may be Yigal Amir who feels the satisfaction of a mission accomplished.

The writer is the editor of the new biography, Yitzhak Rabin: Sol-dier of Peace, written by the staff of the Terusalem Report' news magazine, published in the UK



an elected second chamber, nationalisation of the utilities, a slimmeddown, Scandinavian-style monar-thy. The National Lottery, described as a tax on the poor in his four-page programme, would go.

This, from someone who owns. in addition to Harrods, the Ritz in Paris, the former Duke of Windsor's house in France, a castle in Scotland and an estate in Surrey family roots as being in a great trad-

course: Tiny sells his shares in House of Fraser, Harrods' parent; Mohamed buys the whole company, to Timy's anguish; Tiny begins a relentless campaign to get the takeover overturned by the Government: Department of Trade and Industry inspectors report that Mohamed fied about the source of his wealth and misrepresented his

made a point of praising her. Bizarrely, the judges admitted that

wrenching him away will be deeply and permanently damaging. But racial roots, it seems, matter more than psychology. This modern mania for putting ethnic origin above all other emotional considerations has become a warped form of racism, defining children by their race and ignoring their other needs and wishes. This is atavistic socio-biological thinking - putting the animal back into the wild, the bird back in its nest. Maybe it would be better if the child had never been taken from his mother (though maybe not). But that is now history. He is a human, not an animal, and he knows where he belongs bet-

ter than the judges.
Underlying this case is another atavism - treating children as the chat-tels of their biological parents. Although the judges were careful to avoid saying so, the only sense that can be made of their ruling is that the boy belongs to his birth parents and so it is best for him to be where he

One further piece of political correctness has infected the judiciary. The poor black family who can offer little to the boy - virtually no education or future - is set against a middie-class (albeit down on her luck) white woman in Maida Vale, who is good at getting her children into public schools. Rich London should not be allowed to steal the children of poor Africa. This child is paying the price of our guilt about apartheid and

But if a child who wants to stay with a foster parent he loves, in a richer, safer place with every opportunity is not allowed to do so, how has his welfare been treated as "paramount"? Time and again the intent of the Children Act is cast aside in favour of other cult agendas. When will children's voices ever be heard above the din of adults' demands?

Advertisement

"The man is a national treasure" (What Doctors Don't Tell You) IRRITABLE BOWEL SYNDROME? Helpful Advice From Dr Vernon Coleman

If you suffer from kritable Bowel Syndrome you will know only too well how this painful disorder can ruin your life. I used to suffer terribly from IBS, and had all the usual symptoms (pain, wind etc) but conquered the problem using a simple, two-step control programme. Since then my symptoms have virtually disappeared and the quality of my life has improved beyond measure. Now you can share the information that gave me back a normal life. I have produced a book called "Relief from IBS" that explains the methods I used to solve my IBS problem. The advice is written in an easy-to-follow style and includes a series of simple, practical guidelines designed to help you deal with your IBS in the same way that I dealt with mine. The

- topics covered include Causes and symptoms
- · How to look after your digustive system
- · Relief from wind
- · Tips on how to cope with stress

· Foods that can make things worse

Having suffered from IBS for several years I know what a devastating effect it can have on your life and I do hope my book will be able to help you. You can try my advice without risk - if you don't find the book helpful then simply return it to me within 28 days of receipt for a full refund. To order your copy send a cheque or postal order for £9.95 to IBS Book Offer, Sales Office IN31

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"His advice is optimistic and enthusiastic" (The British Medical Journal)

"Dr Vernon Coleman is one of our most enlightened, trenchant and sensible dispensers of medical advice" (The Observer)

Published by the European Medical Journal

Thou shalt love thy natural parents

Why return a Zulu child to a mother whose language he does not speak, asks Polly Toynbee

A last minute attempt to win a reprieve for a 10-year-old Zulu boy failed in court yesterday. Against his will, the boy, known as M, was torn from the arms of his foster mother yesterday afternoon and handed over to his natural mother. She will be taking him to Brakpan, a township outside Johannesburg where he has never lived, to be with parents he cannot understand as he speaks no Zulu. Mrs S, his foster mother, was too dis-

traught to speak yesterday evening. Yesterday morning the President of the European Commission on Human Rights requested the British government not to send the boy back until they had considered the case. But the Attorney-General refused and was backed by the Court of Appeal. Allan Levy QC, appearing for the boy's foster mother, pointed out to the court that all previous requests from Strasbourg to the government had always been acceded to. This refusal set a

This has been one of the saddest and most shameful cases, flying in the face of the spirit of the 1989 Children Act. The boy was the illegitimate son of the Zulu housekeeper of Mrs S, an Afrikaaner woman. From the age of 18 months Mrs 5 fostered him, and when she moved to London the boy's natural mother signed a paper releasing him. Mrs S, now widowed, lives on social security in Maida Vale with her daughters and M, who is exceptionally bright, is due to take an assisted

place at a top private school. The boy's natural father turned up again. He and the boy's mother married and then claimed they always expected M to be sent back after five years. They have sold their story for sizeable sums to the South African press and South African airways flew them over for free for the case, it has become a cause célèbre, stiming national pride and dark national memories of apartheid - an Airikaaner white woman who has "stolen" her servant's boy.



The Appeal Court has unprecedentedly refused a request from the European Commission on Human Rights

This week the House of Lords refused to hear Mrs S's appeal. In court the child's wishes were represented by the Official Solicitor: "We made very clear the child's wishes to stay in Britain with Mrs S. It is unusual for a court to go against such firmly expressed wishes of a child,"

they say.
The Children Act demands that a child's welfare is paramount. It says a child's 'views, wishes and feelings' should be taken very seriously. But the Courts claimed they were acting in the child's best interests in returning him to his Zulu roots. A child's own wishes are not necessarily the same as his long-term best interests. All through this case, the judges have been careful to clothe their words in the language of the Children Act, but have utterly ignored the principle at

The progress of this case has aston- he is almost always the only person ished the lawyers involved, all acting pro bono without payment. The distinguished child psychiatrist called in evidence and the Official Solicitor have all been ignored. The European Commission and possibly the Court will still hear the case and decide whether the human rights of the child and his foster mother have been

The case raises a multitude of questions. Firstly, does a 10-year-old boy know what is best for him? In ny ways, of course, he does not. He needs to be made to wash, brush his teeth, eat his greens, do his homework and go to bed at a rea-sonable hour. These things he will probably not do unless an adult

seps on his case.
These are, it must be said, small matters. On the big issues in his life

who does know what should happen. and no one else can tell him. Only he knows whom he loves. Only he knows where he belongs. Who else can come along and tell him these things? The answer is, the Court of Appeal and the House of Lords. Thou shalt love whom we order you to love, they say. They order him to love biological parents he can no longer speak to and to "return" to a family he cannot remember living with. Only Dickens's pen could do justice to such callous disregard of a child's feelings.

Sadly, sometimes a child wants to live with a parent so deeply unsuitable that the courts are forced to intervene. Children do sometimes love parents too hopelessly deranged, depressed, wicked or subnormal to be safe to live with. But there was no question of Mrs S's suitability and the judges

Emile Habibi

The death of the eminent, controversial and highly accomplished Palestinian writer Emile Habibi could not have come at a worse moment, when anti-Israeli feeling in the Arab world is at its height following the illfated "grapes of wrath" military campaign. Irony, the main feature of Habibi's narrative and drama, left its mark on his life and his death. As a writer who devoted the last 15 or so years of his life to the promotion of peace with Israel, and tirelessly campaigned for its acceptance among reluctant Arab readers and intellectuals, he died only one day after the mass funeral of the 102 Lebanese civilian victims of the Israeli massacre in

Habibi was the only Palestinian Arab to win the highest literary honours from both the PLO and Israel. Yasser Arafat bestowed on him the illustrious Al-Quds Prize, for his role in furthering the cause of Palestinian literature. In 1992, the Israeli prime minister, Yitzhak Shamir, awarded him the Israel Prize for his role in promoting tolerance and mutual understanding through his writing. Habibi deserved both prizes, but his winning the latter raised wide controversy both in the Arab world and in Israel. It was denounced by right-wing Israelis who were antagonistic to giving an Arab writer Israel's most prestigious literary prize. At the same time, Arab intellectuals, including the Palestinian writers in the Diaspora. castigated him for accepting a a secular, democratic, multiprize from a state whose hands were tainted with the blood of the Palestinian children. In the face of strong opposition and widespread criticism. Habibi their identity and maintain their accepted the prize, but donated its US\$8,000 to a charity working with the wounded child

victims of the intifada. 1922 to a Christian Orthodox refinery while studying by cor-respondence for a London University degree in petroleum engineering. In 1942 he aban-doned his study to work as a news announcer for the Palestinian broadcasting station in

From the outset of his public career, Habibi was a lone voice calling, in 1949, for the ac-ceptance of the UN plan for the division of Palestine into an Arab and a Jewish state, a plan that was unanimously rejected by all Arab governments. Soon after the creation of Israel, he became a political activist for the cause of Palestinians and the founder and leader of the League of Liberation of Palestine, which eventually became the Israeli Communist Party, Rakah, For a long time, Rakah was the only political party in Israel with a mixed membership of Arabs and Jews

In 1952, Habibi, by far the most active Arab member in Rakah, was elected to the Knesset, a seat he held for 20 years. As a parliamentary politician, he devoted his energy to the po-litical struggle of the Palestinian people who stayed behind after the creation of the state of Israel on their land. He de-fended their legal, political and human rights, and above all devoted most of his active life to the articulation of their cause.

In the 1950s, he became the chief editor of Rakah's Arabic language newspaper, al-Ittihad ("The Union"), which called for the unity of Arabs and Jews in ethnic state in Palestine. Under his editorship, it promoted the cause of the Palestinian Arabs cultural tradition. It was in al-Ittihad and its literary monthly supplement, al-Jadid, that the new Palestinian poetry of re-Habibi was born in Haifa in sistance emerged in the late 1950s and early 1960s, articumiddle-class family. After ob- lating a strong sense of hope and taining his baccalaureate in the quest for an Arab identity 1939, he worked in Haifa's oil among Palestinians in Israel.



Unlike most Palestinian writers, Emile Habibi started writing late in life. He began almost as a challenge to a statement made, after the Arab defeat of 1967, by the late Yigal Allon, a leading Israel politician, who told him that the Palestinians did not exist any longer, for if they did they would have produced their own literature. Literature was seen as a proof of existence and a document of national identity. Habibi was then in his mid-forties and the denial of the existence of Palestinians, common at the time in Zionist circles, prompted him to document their survival.

who emerged from the refugee camps and thus had little or no experience of Palestine before the establishment of the Jewish state. Habibi had spent his childhood in the Palestine of the British Mandate, and remained in his native city after the crethe continuity of the Palestinian experience. This provided him with the unique position of representing the continuity of the Palestinian experience in modern Arabic literature.

The devastating shock of the 1967 war turned Habiby's leftwing optimism into bitter sarcasm and biting humour which Unlike the majority of con- he channelled into his first littemporary Palestinian writers erary work, Sudasiyyat al-Ayyam Unlike most short-story cycles

Habibi rejects the outcome of the war and posits an alternative to the official account, using narrative as a means of subverting the prevalent order and warding off the nightmare ation of Israel, thus sustaining of reality. The Sextet is a unique work of narrative using the form of the short-story cycle to present a panorumic view of the contradictions of the war and its ironic impact on the Palestinians. Each piece is structurally autonomous and can be read as an independent story, but the subtle link between the pieces offers the work its unity, inter-

nal cohesion and dynamism.

al-Sittah ("The Sextet of the Six which are linked through a Day War", 1968). In this work, character, a place or an event, the link generating the structural unity of the Sextet is that of identity, impact, shock and irony. The Palestinian dream of "return" is accomplished, but only ironically when the rest of the Palestinian land falls under Israeli occupation.

Structural irony is also at the core of his second and most famous novel, Al-Waqa'i al-Gharibah fi Ikhtifa' Sa'id Abi-l-Nahs al-Mutasha'il (known in English under its short title, The Pess-Optimist, 1974). In this novel, which was translated 1967 war recedes into the back-memory which serve as a sons); died Nazureth 2 May 1996.

ist attempts to eradicate their identity comes to the fore, The Pess-Optimist uses a fine mixture of Sterne's ironic and reflexive narrative in Tristram Shandy and the humorous Arabic anecdotal narrative in telling the story of the Palestinians of Habibi's generation. It consists of three parts, each devoted to a major phase in the recent history of Palestine and entitled with the name of a woman who is both the beloved of the hero and a symbol of Palestine. The first. "Yu'ad", represents the early period before the loss of Pales-tine in 1948; the second, "Baqiyah", embodies the spirit of the Palestinian resistance to the eradication of their na-tional identity after the creation of the state of Israel; and the third, "Yu'ad al-Thaniyah", sig-nifies the new stage of the

The inevitability of resistance is the main theme of the novel, which articulates the impossibility of collaboration, for no matter how subservient and accepting the Palestinian becomes the only fate for him in Israel is oppression and anni-hilation. Resistance is used in the novel in its widest sense; it is not confined to overt acts of defiance, for every measure that preserves the Palestinian presence, identity and culture is an act of resistance, even if it appears as a form of submission and capitulation. In this respect the novel foreshadowed the Palestinian intifada long

Palestinian consciousness which emerged after 1967 and the armed Palestinian resistance.

before it took place. Unlike most novels, The Pess-Optimist is full of footnotes creating a secondary text which serves as the cultural context of the novel and roots every aspect of the narrative in the historical and geographical reality of Palestine. The detailed inforinto 16 languages, the theme of the immediate shock of the generates an elaborate internal

ground and the survival of counter-argument against any Palestinians in the face of Zion-denial of the existence of denial of the existence of Palestine and its identity.

The consolidation of this identity and the preservation of its cultural and oral history seems to be at the heart of Habi-by's literary project. It perme-aics his plays, Luka Ibn Luka ("Luka the son of Luka", 1979) and *Umm al-Rubabikia* ("The Pedlar Woman", 1992), and novels, *Ikhtiyyah* (1985) and Saraya Bint al-Cihul ("Saraya the Ogre's Daughter", 1992). In these two novels the textual space becomes an arena for the inscription of what one may call the intrastructure of Palestinian identity; its history, geography, oral tradition, folk culture, popular lore concerning agriculture and weather, anecdotes, proverbs and even fragments of its written literature. The collective culture is inscribed as much in the realistic account of daily events as in the flight into fantasy and imagination. Beneath the deformed narrative space of present-day Israel the author invokes through a powerful nostalgia the sucrosanct Palestine around every corner and behind

every street-name. The writing of Habibi never failed to generate interest and controversy both in the Arab world and among Palestinians and Israelis alike. He was one of the major forces in the development of the Arabic novel and provided it with some of its most interesting experimental work. The strength of controversy raised by his work and political views throughout his career and the heated discussion it generated is a testimony to Habibi's lasting importance as a prominent literary figure and a symbol of Palestinian identity. Through these debates he succeeded in putting the Palestinian question firmly on the literary agenda.

Emile Habibi, writer: born Haifa 29 August 1922: married (two

Mike Leander

Mike Leander stamped his distinctive arrangement and production style on British popular record companies, persuaded music in the Sixties, his influ- me to finance the making of ence continuing through the such a recording. Leander Seventies with the creation of arranged and produced the the glam rock star Gary Glitter, record which was duly leased to and into the Eighties as the Decca Records, sadly for no adwriter of the West End musical

Mike Leander was born Michael Farr in 1941 in Wal- suit. Decca offered Leander a thamstow, east London. He contract as an arranger; not bad won a scholarship to Bancroft's for someone who, at that time, school in Woodford Green, Es- was still teaching himself to read sex, where he boarded from and write music. 1952 until 1959. His consuming interests were cricket, at which he represented the school at all levels, and music of all kinds. At school he regularly attended thinker, he knew what he want-Sunday classical music evenings in the library, which met with He found time to study orthe approval of his housemas- chestration at the Trinity Colter; and formed a skittle group, lege of Music and, with his

which didn't. He studied law, more to aphe gave it up and found a job as office junior in a small muhad soon discovered a singer Stones, Cliff Richard, Billy and written some songs and, re- Fury, Marianne Faithfull, Marc

alising the financial potential in leasing finished recordings to vance and a rather lower royalty rate than had been expected. It flopped but, as a re-

His foot was on the first rung of a ladder, to the top of which he climbed in record time. An intelligent deep ed and how to make it happen. unshakeable belief in his own ability, created a classical-pop pease his elders than through any innate desire, but the lure Sixties which quickly estabof the music business was too lished him as a major influence strong and, after less than a year, on the popular music of the time. In the early Sixties he arranged and in many cases prosic publishing company. He duced records by the Rolling

Bolan, the Small Faces, Joe Cocker, Van Morrison, Alan Price, Shirley Bassey, Lulu, Jimmy Page, Roy Orbison and

Gene Pitney. His influence on British popular music did not go unnoticed in America, and in 1964 Atlantic Records brought him to the United States to work with the legendary Ben E. King and the Drifters, where he had an immediate No 1 in the Billboard chart with "Under the Board- cept album Jesus Christ Superwalk". During a period in which he also wrote "Lady Godiva" for album of Godspell and an album Peter and Gordon and "I've of Rupert Brooke poems read Been a Bad Bad Boy" and by Sir John Gielgud; and com-"High Time" for Paul Jones, the arrangement he was most proud of was for "She's Leav-

Stylish and charismatic, a commanding and respected figure in and out of the recording studio, he was not only a leading contributor to the music of the Sixties he was a leading light on the swinging social scene. He ceeding one million broadcast was a celebrity and loved to celebrate. Whether a record reached No 1 or No 31 it was still worth a table for 12 at the Arethusa, and the fact that in

some cases the restaurant bill

would exceed the aggregate of led to his instigation of the glam royalties to come was of little concern to Leander.

In the latter part of the Sixties, he signed a six-figure contract with MCA Records as a writer and producer. He produced and arranged hits for several MCA artists; recorded an album, Migration, with the Mike Leander Orchestra: was executive producer of the Andrew Lloyd Webber/Tim Rice constar; producer of the soundtrack posed the music for several films, including Privilege and Run a Crooked Mile. In the earing Home" on the Beatles' ly Seventies his writing part-Sergeant Pepper album in 1967. nership with me (we were old schoolfriends) produced worldwide hits for Englebert Humperdinck, Cliff Richard and Vanity Fair, whose song "Early in the Morning" received a BMI award for ex-

> States. In 1972 Leander's love of rock'n'roll music and his belief in the stagecraft of a hitherto unsuccessful rocker, Paul Gadd,

performances in the United

rock movement when he created the music and persona of Gary Glitter. Apart from writing arranging and producing 11 consecutive Top Ten hits for Gary, including three Number Ones, Leander played all the instruments on the records except the brass. The unique drum and guitar sounds on these records were the envy of many subsequent imitators, none of whom could quite achieve the distinctive quality of Leander's originals. Another 10 hits followed, featuring either Gary or the Glitter Band, and Leander received an Ivor Novello Award and a Certificate of Honour for Services to British Popular Music.

From the late Seventies Leander shared his time between London and Majorca. He had a great love of Spain and all things Spanish and in conceived the idea for a musical based on the bullfighter El Cordobes. called Maiador, which we started writing in 1983. He produced a concept album of the show in 1987 which included the hit single "A Boy From Nowhere" by Tom Jones. Acclaimed productions of the show followed in



Leander, left, at his wedding to Penelope Carter in 1974. Gary Glitter, right, was best man

and a long time ambition of Leander's was fulfilled in 1991 when Matador opened at the Queen's Theatre in the West End of London. It ran for four months, winning a Laurence Olivier Award for Best Choreography. Plans are in place for further productions in four the Pavilion Bar.

theatres in America in 1997. Outside music, Mike Leander's great passion was cricket. with that talent. He made an April 1996.

sidered carrying his bat for 19 four members of his team in the music business. process. He was a proud member of the MCC and loved nothing more than watching a Michael Farr (Mike Leander). test match from the balcony of

Mike Leander was not only

Chicago and Miami in 1989/90 In his later, lazier days, he con- enormous contribution to the world of music and was a great to be most satisfactory, despite influence on the lives of many perhaps running out three or people inside and outside the

> **Edward Seago** songwriter, record producer, arranger: born London 30 June 1941; married 1974 Penny Carter hugely talented but generous (two sons); died London 18

Births. **Marriages** & Deaths

DEATHS

GRILLER: On 26 April, Honor Elizabeth, beloved mother of Catherine Pinner and Arnold Giller. Funeral service at Mortlake Crematorium on Friday 10 May at 1.15pm. Flowers to J.H. Kenyon, 49 Martoes Road, London W8, telephone 0171-937 0757.

IN MEMORIAM BORTHWICK: Florence Borthwick (nee Cronin), died 4 May 1993. No flower, no words.

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS.

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marringes, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniversaries, in Memoriata) should be sent in writing to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 SDL, telephoned to 0171-293 2011 (24-hour answering machine 0171-293 2012) or faxed to 0171-293 2010, and are charged at £6.50 a line 2010, and are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra). OTHER Gazette 8Bsubmitted in writing (or fasted) and are charged at £10 a line, VAT extra. They should be accompanied by a daytime telephone number.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS Princess Michael of Kent tomorrow pre-sents the prizes at the Badminton Horse Trials.

Changing of the Guard Changing of the Guard
TODAY: The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life
Guard at Horse Guards, Ham: 1st Battailon Irish Guards mounts the Queen's
Guard, at Boeldingham Palnee, 11-30am,
band provided by the Soats Guards,
TOMORROW: The Household Cavalry
Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's
Life Guard at Herse Guards, 10am: Nilinegan Commany Grandier Guards inegen Company Grenadier Guards mounts the Oueen's Guard, at Backing-hum Palace. 11.30am, band provided by the

Marriages

Mr H. W. L Thomas

The marriage took place on Friday 3 May, at Braemar and afterwards Corrour, between Hugh Thomas and Elisabeth Cotterill.

Birthdays

TODAY: Mr Frith Banbury, theatri-cal director, 84; The Rev Professor harles Barrett, theologian, 79; Mr Michael Barrymore, entertainer, 44; The Right Rev David Farmbrough, former Bishop of Bedford, 67; Sir Stephen Hastings, former MP, 75; Mr Robert Hendrie, ambassador to Uruguay, 58; Sir David Hildyard, former diplomat, 80; Mr Brian Innes, jazz musician. 67; Sir Charles Irving, former MP, 73; Mrs Jane Kennedy MP, 38; The Hon Sir Mark Lennox-Boyd MP, 53; Mr Martyn Moxon, cricketer, 36; Mr Muhammad Hosmi Mubaruk, president of Egypt, 68; Sir Edward Pickering, executive vice-chairman of Times Newspapers, 84; Miss Liz Robertson, actress and miss 112 Roberssor Marisa Robles, harpist, 59; Mr Gennadi Rozhdes-tvensky, conductor, 65; Mr Edwin Russell, sculptor, 57; Mr Alexander Schouvaloff, former Curator, Theatre Museum, 62; Professor Robin Sibson, Vice-Chancellor, Uni-versity of Kent, 52; Siz Norman Siddall, mining engineer, 78; Lord Stoddart of Swindon, former government minister, 70; Mr Eric Sykes, comedian, 73; Miss Gillian Tindall,

biographer, novelist and historian, 58; Mr John Watson, racing driver, 50; Professor Basil Yamey, economist, 77. TOMORROW: Sir Michael Angus, chairman, Whithread, 66; Mr Vivian Anthony, Secretary, Headmasters' Conference, 58; Mr Grahame Clinton, cricketer. 43: Mrs Elizabeth Comran. Curator, the Bowes Muse-um, Barnard Castle, 54; Miss Jean Conston MP, 54; Sir Alan Donald, former diplomat, 65; Miss Alice Fave. film actress and singer, 81; Sir Charles Fletcher-Cooke QC, former

MP, 82; Mrs Joanna Foster, director, BT Forum, 57; Sir Victor Garland, former Australian High Commis-sioner, 62; General Sir Charles Harstoner, 62; General Str Charles rau-ington, 80; Sir Brian Hayes, former senior civil servant, 67; Mr Vernon Mann, television journalist, 51; Mr John Maxton MP, 60; Mr Michael Palin, comedian and actor, 53; Lady Plowden, former chairman, IBA, Số: Mr Barry Reed, chairman, Austin Só; Mr Barry Reed, chairman, Austin Reed Group, 65; Mr Roger Rees, ac-tor and playwright, 52; Mr James Stevens, composer, 66; Miss Dilys Watling, actress, 50; Mr Jonathan Weeks, managing director, Wool-worth, 58; The Right Rev Gordon Wheeler, Roman Catholic Bishop Emeritus of Leeds, 86; Mr John Whitaker, cricketer, 34; Professor Sir Glanmor Williams, former Chairman, Ancient Monuments Board (Wales), 76; Miss Tammy Wynette, singer, 54; Mr Gerard Young, former Lord-Lieutenant of South Yorks, 86.

Anniversaries TODAY: Births: Sir Thomas Lawrence, portrait painter, 1769; William Hickling Prescott, historian, 1796; Joseph Whitaker, publisher of Whitaker's Almanack, 1829; Thomas Henry Huxley, biologist and natural historian, 1825; John Hanning Speke, discoverer of the source of the Nile, 1827; Alice Liddell, the original of Alice in Wonderland, 1852; Estelle Sylvia Pankhurst, artist and feminist, 1882: Israel Moses Sieff, Baron Sieff, president of Marks and Spencer, 1889; Sir Archibald Hector MeIndoe, plastic surgeon, 1900; Audrey Hepburn, actress, 1929. Deaths: Sir Francis Osbert Sacheverell Sitwell Bt. author, 1969; Josip Broz Tito, president of Yugoslavia, 1980; Diana Dors (Fluck), actress, 1984. On this Dors (Frick), actress, 1984. On this day: the Lancastrians were defeated by the Yorkists at the Battle of Tewkesbury, 1471: the first Derby was run at Epsom (and won by Diomed), 1780; the Cunard shipping line was founded, 1839; Natal was proclaimed a British colony, 1843; the Maoris rebelled against the British in New

Zealand, 1863; the Daily Mail was first published, price one halfpenny. 1896; work on excavating the Panama Canal began, 1904; the General Strike in Britain began, 1926; "Waltzing Matilda" became the national anthem of Australia, 1976; Mrs Margaret Thatcher became Britain's first woman Prime Minister, 1979. Today is the Feast Day of St Augustine Webster, St Cyriacus or Judas Quiriacus, St Florian of Lorch, St Gothard or Godehard, St John Houghton, St

cialist, 1818; Henryk Sienkiewicz, novelist, author of *Quo Vadir?*, 1846; Archibald Percival Wavell, first Earl wavell, soldier, 1883; Christopher Darlington Morley, novelist and playwright, 1890; Sir Gordon Richards, jockey, 1904. Deaths: Napoleon I (Napoleone Buomaparte). Emperor of France, 1821; Beatrice Harraden, novelist, 1936; James Branch Cabell, novelist, 1958. flight to Australia, 1930; the Council of Europe was set up in London, 1949; Major Yuri Gagarin, a Soviet cosmonaut, orbited the earth, 1961.

Lectures TODAY the Flowers", 12pm.

St Jutta and St Mauruntius,

Pelagia of Tarsus, St Robert Lawrence, St Richard Reynolds and St Venerius of Milan. which are the most certain. TOMORROW: Births: Søren Aabye Kierkegaard, philosopher, 1813; Heinrich Karl Marx, author and so-

On this day: excavation of the Corinth Canal in Greece began, 1882; Amy Johnson began a solo Today is the Feast Day of St Angelo, St Avertinus, St Hilary of Arles, St Hilary of Galeata, St John Halle,

National Gallery: Julia Tozer, "May Flowers (i): Redon, Ophelia Among National Portrait Gallery: Alfred Bradley and Susan Morris, "Cather-ine Macaulay, historian", 3pm. TOMORROW

Tate Gallery: Laurence Bradbury, "Naum Gabo: spatial sculpture", 2.30pm.

before 31/7/10 we seemed see of £12.50. Prices were used to £12.50. Prices were used t

'I' is a tyrant. You are what you eat

the modern philosophers but his influence has been disastrous. This is because, as Bertrand Russell said. "It was Descartes who founded modern philosophy by demonstrating that it is subjective things

Descartes famously began by enquiring whether there is any knowledge so certain that no reasonable person can doubt it. And his celebrated answer to this central question was to say that at least he could not doubt that he doubted; and if he doubts then he must think; and if he thinks

he must exist. Cogito, ergo sum. What could be more reasonable than that? What could be sillier? Descartes' conclusion is absurd, though it took Wittgen-stein to demonstrate this. When Descartes says, "I think therefore I am", he must be using a language. But a private language - one that is spoken and understood by only one person - is a contradiction in terms. The concept of meaning is a public concept. And language is a public

But the Cogito was only the bottom of the garden path so to speak. The tradition of subjectivism and transcendental egotism based on Descartes' philosophy has been perpetuated over four centuries, corrupting not only our epistemology but our moral thought and social understanding. Descartes "cogito" had a thoroughly technical meaning that was neither "thinking" nor "feeling"; a better translation might be, "Something is doubting that anything exists. Therefore something exists." But this would not fit so well on a T-shirt; and as his influence grew, "cogito" changed to mean something like: "I feel, therefore I am real."

anniversary of the birth of Descartes, "the founder of modern philosophy". It is true that Descartes is the most influential of the modern philosophys but his a few that Descartes is the most influential of the modern philosophys but his a few that Descartes is the most influential of the modern philosophys but his a few that Descartes is the most influential of the modern philosophys but his a few that Descartes is the most influential of the modern philosophys but his a few that Descartes is the most influential of the modern philosophys but his a few that Descartes is the most influential of the modern philosophys but his a few that Descartes is the most influential of the modern philosophys but his a few that Descartes is the most influential of the modern philosophys but his a few that Descartes is the most influential of the modern philosophys but his a few that Descartes is the most influential of the modern philosophys but his a few that Descartes is the most influential of the modern philosophys but his a few that Descartes is the most influential of the modern philosophys but his a few that Descartes is the most influential of the modern philosophys but his a few that Descartes is the most influential of the modern philosophys but his a few that Descartes is the most influential of the modern philosophys but his a few that Descartes is the most influential of the modern philosophys but his a few that Descartes is the most influential of the modern philosophys but his a few that Descartes is the most influential of the modern philosophys but his a few that Descartes is the most influential of the modern philosophys but his a few that Descartes is the most influence that Descartes is the modern philosophys but his a few that Descartes is the modern philosophys but his a few that Descartes is the modern philosophys but his a few that Descartes is the modern philosophys but his a few that Descartes is the modern philosophys but his a few that Descartes is the modern philosophys but his a few that Descarte

Peter Mullen is in no mood to celebrate the quatercentenary of the birth of René Descartes.

Descartes was absurd and wrong, he argues; our identity has its origin in objective values.

In this form, Cartesian subjectivism was consolidated by Rousseau and the Romantic Movements. Its religious expression was found in such as Wesley whose criterion for redemption was to have one's individual heart "strangely warmed" - an ominous pre-echo of the nauseating consumerist revivalism of our own times which advertises Jesus Christ as my personal saviour, as if the dynamics of the forgiveness of sins were the business of insurance companies.

The "I" in "I think therefore I am" is a tyrant. This romantic individual is not only the demonic artist of 19th-century concert platforms and countless embarrassing Hollywood movies about artistic geniuses: he is also the supposedly om-

niscient personality inside each one of us. Descartes' faulty epistemology lies be-hind the moral relativism which plagues modern societies and renders impotent all efforts at ethical consensus. It is not even as though Descartes had delivered to us an unpalatable truth - that the individual personality is sovereign and we must somehow learn as a society to cope with this fact. For the individual constructed on Descartes' model and subsequently worth."

be trusted: you are what you eat. But we have failed to understand that this truth applies not only to the body but to the mind and morals. The subjectivist view that everyone's opinion is equally valid leads to the relativism which claims that the Sex Pistols are as good as Bach. This is a judgement which could only be made by one who had imbibed the culture of the Sex Pistols but not the culture of Bach.

Once the individual has been accepted as an indivisible, unchallengable whole, set apart from everything else in the world, we lose the ability to judge between individual preferences. We must rediscover the pre-Cartesian knowledge that tradi-tion preserves objective beliefs which are more certain than our poor subjectivities. It is futile to say that everyone has a right to their own opinions, as if this means that all opinions, however unschooled and illconsidered, are equally likely to express the truth.

We are what we eat. We form our judgements out of the stuff of which we are constituted. If therefore a child is filled up with the moral and aesthetic equivalent of junk food then we must expect him to develop a junk mind. The most appropriate way to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Descartes is to begin again his quest for understanding but to begin with the realisation that our identity is not something to be deduced absurdly from our own thoughts. The "I" is not something conjectured into existence: it is given and created out of whole worlds of objective values, And it is the choice of values which is crucial. As Ezra Pound said, "Show me what you value and I'll tell you what you're

business

Unit trusts

Royal and Sun seal £6bn merger

Insurance shares race ahead on speculation of wave of takeovers in the industry

PETER RODGERS and NIC CICUTTI

Insurance shares raced ahead yesterday as the City predicted a rush of takeovers in the industry, prompted by the surprise £6bn merger of Royal Insurance and Sun Alliance.

Analysts said the merger raised doubts about the longterm independence of Guardian Royal Exchange, the smallest composite left in the sector.

There was speculation that GRE could be a target for European insurers, including the Dutch company, Fortis, the French insurer Axa, and Generali, the Italian firm.

One analyst said: "This definitely puts pressure on GRE. I would not be surprised at an announcement from them in the near future, either in relation to a merger with Commercial Union or General Accident, or a takeover from another

GRE shares rose 38p to 271p. General Accident was up 25p to 647p and Commercial Union. until the new deal Britain's largest general insurer, rose 25p to 615p. At those prices GRE is worth £2.5bn. Commercial Union £4.1bn, and General Accident £3.1bn.

The consultancy Datamonitor forecast that nearly a third of general insurers would fall victim to mergers or acquisitions and a similar contraction has already been widely predicted in

the life assurance industry. The merger now makes Prudential the hot favourite to take over Friends Provident. in the wave of consolidation sweeping through the life assurance industry.

The life mutual with £15ba under management was until re-

cently thought to have been closely stalked by Sun Alliance. The merged Royal Sun Al-liance is expected to renew its search for a mutual to buy after its own deal goes through in August, because the combined weight of the two companies' life operations is much lower than their share of the general in-

surance market. Arthur Hayes of Sun Alliance, who is to be an executive director of the merged group, said "maybe at some time in the future we will return to looking at mutuals".

On the life assurance side, the combined company will only be sixth in annualised premium

With the merger costing 5,000 jobs, most of them in the UK. over the next two years, the two companies said they expected cost savings of £175m a year by 1998, to set against one-off costs of the restructuring of the same amount - giving a one year payback. The companies have 28,000 staff in the UK, 22,000 of them in mainstream insurance which will reduce to 17,000 to 18,000. and their world-wide total is 45,000.

The combined company will be the UK's largest general insurer and it will also be the ninth largest composite insurer in the world – leaping from 23rd place for Royal and 25th for Sun

The all share deal was generally welcomed in the City, because there has been a widespread recognition that the UK insurance market has too few large international players. The overlap between the two in

| Financial comparison of the companies | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|--------|-----------------|--------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Ro | Sun Alliance | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1995 | 1994 | 1995 | 1994 | | | | | | |
| | (£m) | (£m) | (£m) | (£m) | | | | | | |
| Net premiums written: | | | | | | | | | | |
| - general insurance | 3,524 | 3,589 | 3,571 | 3,402 | | | | | | |
| - long-term insurance | 1,029 | 1,117 | 1,262 | 1,237 | | | | | | |
| total | 4,553 | 4,706 | 4,833 | 4,639 | | | | | | |
| Pre-tax profits | 498 | 467 | 546 | 347 | | | | | | |
| Shareholders' funds | 2,676 | 1,882 | 2,640 | 1,768 | | | | | | |
| Dividend total | 16.0p | 12.0p | 17. 25 p | 15.75p | | | | | | |
| Earnings per share | 60.0p | 61.9p | 44.0p | 26.9p | | | | | | |
| Number of UK employe | es : | L2,743 | | 15,825 | | | | | | |

overseas markets is also small. Both have plans to expand in India and China.

The merged group had world-wide premium income of £9.4bn and net profits of £1.026bn last year on pro forma accounts.

After their shares leapt yes-

terday - Royal by 67p to 437p and Sun Alliance by 55p to 414p the total market value was £6.1bn, of which £2.8bn was Royal and £3.3 bn was Sun Alliance. Total assets are £55bn in-cluding £45bn of funds under management

Under the terms of the merger, holders of 1,000 Royal shares will own 1,067 Royal Sun Alliance shares, while 1,000 Sun Alliance shares translate into the same number in the new company. Royal shareholders will then own 46.4 per cent and Sun Alliance 53.6 per cent of the combine. However, unlike takeovers or mergers of mutual societies there will be no cash bonanza for policyholders.

Roger Taylor, the chief executive of Sun Alliance who as deputy chairman is to be the top executive director in the merged group, said he did not believe the merger would be put on ice by a UK monopolies inquiry. He conceded there was a possible problem in one specialised type of engineering insurance where the combined share is 45 per cent. This is the business of in-

suring and inspecting boilers. But he said that while the combined share of household insurance approaches 25 per cent, this only included members of the Association of British Insurers, and when other competitors were taken into account the share would be 20 per cent.

Mr Taylor acknowledged the merger came within the orbit of the European authorities, which would examine the competition implications.

The new "super-insurer", Royal Sun Alliance - whose name has to be cleared with the Home Office because of the use of the word Royal - will be twice the size of the next two largest composite insurers General Accident and Commercial Union. Both have a UK market share of about 7 per cent. GRE is in fourth place with about five

Stephen Dias, insurance analyst at Goldman Sachs, said: "From the numbers, it is a good deal for both sets of shareholders. It is well balanced. It is quite clear that some advantage could be gained from the difficult UK marketplace."

Comment, page 19



A powerful overlap at the top

PETER RODGERS and JOHN WILLCOCK

Jockeying for power at the top of the merged company has left both the chief executives of Royal and Sun Alliance in ap-

parently overlapping jobs.
Richard Gamble of Royal
will be group chief executive but Roger Taylor of Sun Alliance will have the senior role as executive deputy chairman and chairman of the management board.

The arrangement is part of a carefully balanced reorganisation that sees the departure of one Royal director, Roy Elms, and one from Sun Alliance, Ian Trotter, both of whom will be consultants to the company.

There are bound to be questions over whether the emergence of the two most powerful figures in both companies in similar positions at the top of the new organisation can be a lasting arrangement.

overall operational responsibil- until the new person arrives. ity for the group, running the management team, and will report directly to Mr Taylor, 54. Mr as "an insurance man through Taylor will be responsible for the and through." Mr Taylor joined world-wide strategy of the what was then the Alliance joined Royal from BA in 1989 merged business. Asked to define the two top

executive roles, Mr Taylor said: with the company ever since, and ure to pull together what was re-"The board has delegated ex- was the driving force behind its garded as a somewhat sleepy The board has delegated executive responsibility to me." Above both men will be a new

the chairman of Sun Alliance, in as many months. who will remain as interim Mr Gamble, 56, will have chairman of the merged group An acquaintance of Roger Taylor yesterday described him role at Northern Telecom, Mc-

last big acquisition. In 1984 it bought another insurance comnon-executive chairman, to re-place Sir Christopher Benson, achieved 18 per cent cost savings

Royal Sun Alliance leaps to ninth in world league

Total worldwide net premium income*

Richard Gamble, by contrast, trained as an accountant and has had a varied career, including since 1976 the finance director's Donnell Douglas UK and British Airways. Mr Gamble straight from school, in the as group finance director, and West Midlands. He has stayed was seen as a good outside figwas seen as a good outside fig-

company with severe problems in the US.

The new group will have four executive directors - Mr Taylor, Mr Gamble, Arthur Hayes from 225-strong banking syndicates Sun Alliance and Paul Spencer that have lent the £8.1bn of juas group finance director from

The non-executive directors have been carefully chosen with equal balance from both original boards and include the Duke of Westminster from Sun Alliance. A number are also

Tunnel banks to propose debt swap

PETER RODGERS Business Editor

Banks negotiating with Euro-tunnel over an £8.1bn debt reconstruction are expected next week to propose an immediate swap of part of the debt for 49 per cent of the equity in the

Reports from Paris last night said the four lead banks, including Nat West and Midland. are to start talks with Eurotunnel next week on the plan. A proposal from the banks to take just under half the equity in the company is less tough than some shareholders had feared, against a background of cash surpluses that are a frac-

tion of the interest bill. Eurotunnel sources indicated that no proposal had yet been made to the company, and it is not clear whether it would

accept a 49 per cent swap. There had been suggestions that the banks would insist on taking anything up to 90 per cent of the company from shareholders in return for agreement to restructure the debt, on which interest pay-ments were suspended last September. The Paris sources said the

debt restructuring agreement was reached last Sunday among National Westminster Bank. the HSBC Holdings subsidiary Midland Bank, Banque Nationale de Paris, Credit Lyonnais, the European Investment Bank and the European Coal

and Steel Community. The lead banks are believed to have already won agreement on their proposals from the larger group of 25 instructing banks overseeing the financial reconstruction talks, which are due to

But they now have to enter detailed negotiations with Eurotunnel, the company co-chaired by Sir Alastair Morton and Patrick Ponsolle.

Eurotunnel has drawn up its own proposals, thought to envisage a limited debt-for-equity swap combined with a flexible plan to share the growing revenue from the tunnel between bank creditors and shareholders over the years ahead.

Assuming agreement is reached with the Eurotunnel board, the banks will then have to sell the deal to the rest of the nior debt in question. The syndicates have to deliver a 100 per cent vote in favour of the restructuring proposals.

The balance of the £9bn debt is held by senior lenders whose interest payments are not part of the 18 month standstill announced last September.

% Gross % Gross % Net % Net

Inquiry starts into OFT gaffe over Colorvision

PATRICK TOOHER

Embarrassment engulfed the Colorvision had been stripped Office of Fair Trading yesterday as the Stock Exchange launched an inquiry into why the wrong statement was issued to investors about the status of an OFT inquiry into Colorvision, the Liverpool-based electrical retailer.

"It's a bit of a balls-up to say horribly wrong."

The OFT had meant to say Colorvision's appeal against rewould go uncontested if a pro- at 32p. posed boardroom shake-up, in-cluding the appointment of the chairman Neville Michaelson tormer Wembley Stadium boss chairman, was implemented.

Instead, the OFT sent out a the revamped board by Adrian January press release, stating of the licences and slammed the company's business practices, which included misleading prices, dishonestly supplying secondhand or ex-display goods and failing to offer refunds

when consumers were entitled

to them.

It took the OFT almost half the least, an OFT spokesman an hour to rectify its mistake, by admitted. "Something went which time Colorvision's shares had slumped to an all-time low of 16p. They soared to 41p when the real OFT position became voked consumer credit licences clear and ended the day up 6p

and non-executive director Sir Brian Wolfson as executive Bernard Michaelson have retired. Sir Brian will be joined on

Collins, former chief executive of fund manager Gartmore, and Anthony Rawlinson of venture capital group Strand Partners.

The Michaelsons have also transferred, for no payment, a 29.9 per cent stake in the company worth just under £2m to Sir Brian, Mr Collins and Strand Partners.

A further 6.8 per cent stake will be placed in a discretionary trust for the benefit of the company's key employees, leaving Neville and Bernard Michaelson with 29.9 per cent of Colorvision's equity. Colorvision said the changes

were being carried out at its own suggestion. The final decision over its consumer credit licences rests with lan Lang, the

US utilities to bid for **Midlands Electricity**

MICHAEL HARRISON

Midlands Electricity is expected to agree to a takeover next week from two US utilities valuing the business at £1.5bn to £2bn and setting the scene for a fresh round of bid fever in the

power industry. The company confirmed yesterday that it was in discussions that could lead to an offer. One of the bidders is the New Jersey-based General Public Utilities. The other is rumoured to be Houston Industries of Texas, which bid unsuccessfully for Norweb last year.

The market has been expecting a bid since the Trade and Industry Secretary Ian Lang blocked an agreed £1.95bn takeover of Midlands by the gen-Trade and Industry Secretary. | erator PowerGen 10 days ago.

Within 48 hours the Midlands seaboard - Jersey Central Pow chairman Bryan Townsend had er and Light, Metropolitan Edi-received a number of informal son and Pennsylvania Electric. received a number of informal approaches from US utilities.

Other possible US suitors being mentioned yesterday in-cluded Pacificorp, Mission Energy, Duke Power and Florida Power and Light. There were also rumours of a possible counter bid by the water com-

pany Severn Trent. Although Mr Lang has ef-fectively blocked bids both by and for the two generators, National Power and Power-Gen, the remaining independent regional electricity companies are all thought vulnerable to takeover.

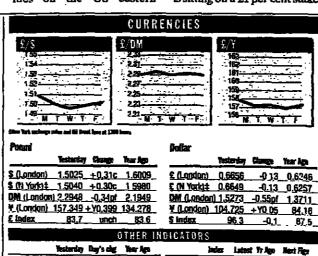
General Public Utilities is capitalised at \$3.8bn (£2.5bn) and owns three utility companies on the US eastern-

It has a turnover of just under \$4bn and 10,000 employees.

Houston Industries is valued at \$5.5bn and generates and supplies electricity to more than 1.5 million customers on the Gulf coast of Texas, making it the ninth largest electricity utility in the US. It also has international operations in Ar-gentina and India.

Analysts speculated yesterday that a bid could value Midlands at up to 450p a share or more compared with its opening price vesterday of 385p. The shares closed 38p higher at 423p valu-ing the company at £1.6bn. PowerGen's attitude could be

crucial to the outcome since it is sitting on a 21 per cent stake.



DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS **REVISED INTEREST RATES**

EFFECTIVE FROM 4 MAY 1996

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|---|--|-------------------|---------------|-------------|
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| Rates unchanged | | | | |
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| £25,000 - £49,999 | 6.50 | • | 5.20 | • |
| £5,000 - £24,994 | 6.25 | - | 5.00 | - |
| £50 - £4,499 | 0.50 | | 0.40 | - |
| DEPOSIT 120 DAY ACCOUNT | 5 | | | |
| (Annual Interest) | | | | |
| L50,000 or more | 5.15 | | 4.12 | - |
| £25,000 - £49,999 | 4.13 | | 3,32 | - |
| £10,000 - £24,999 | 3.55 | | 2.84 | - |
| (5,000 - £9,949 | 3.35 | - | _6% | • |
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| (Annual Interest) | | | | |
| £40,000 or more | 2.15 | | 1.72 | - |
| £25,000 - £39,999 | 1.45 | | 1.16 | - |
| £10,000 - £24,999 | 1.00 | | 0,80 | - |
| £1,000 - £9,999 | ი.გ5 | - | 0.52 | |
| £500 - £999 £50 - £499 | 0,60 | • | 0.48 | |
|] | 0.50 | - | 0.40 | - |
| DEPOSIT CURRENT ACCOUNT: | ı | | | |
| €50,000 or more | 2.42 | 2,45 | 1.94 | 1,95 |
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STOCK MARKETS

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she said. "When I realised that tors breached the 1976 Euro-have to amend legislation. birth certificates and passborts." | missioning incre weapon.

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'Insurers tend to regard themselves as professionals with policyholders, rather than commercial

businesses with customers, and until the last few years

public has rather allowed them

the great British to get away with it'

One of the last bastions of inefficiency falls We obviously spoke a touch too soon when we said in Business Comment

vesterday that the breakdown of talks beween British Telecom and Cable & Wireless could herald the end of the merger boom. There is, of course, one sector that cries out for consolidation and rationalisation - composite insurance. The only real surprise is that t has taken so long for the insurers to strike significant deal.

Insurance remains one of the last great bastions of inefficiency, arrogance and out-dated practice. Insurers tend to regard themselves as professionals with policyholders, rather than commercial businesses with customers, and until the last few years the great British public has rather allowed them to get away with it. The result is overmanning, Spanish practices and a positively 19th-century attitude to organisation and technology.

Things are changing, however. Insurers are being forced to wake up to what most of us realised long ago: these days the world doesn't come to you. If you want to compete, you have to go out to the world.

The advance of low-cost telephone insurance and the giant insurers of America and Europe is badly rattling our own molly-coddled industry. Competition is becoming intense and prices are tumbling. As in any price war, costs have to tumble too. It is a sad truth that, although this merger creates Britain's largest insurance company, Royal Sun Alliance will still rank no higher than ninth in the world league.

change they once were. Individual insurance companies have traditionally retained strong links with particular banking dynastics - Barings, Rothschild, Hambros. As with so much

of the "old" City, these divisions are being swept away. Both Robert Taylor and Richard Gamble, respectively chief executives of Sun Alliance and Royal Insurance, found the logic of this merger inescapable. A way of accommodating two fiercely independent management teams under one roof had to be found.

As it is the solution proposed, with the top jobs shared out between the two boards and the position of chief executive in effect split. is probably untenable long-term. One will eventually come to dominate the other. But there is no doubting the sense of the merger.
Royal Sun Alliance will be uniquely placed
to deal with the growing competitive pressures of the domestic and international market. Others will surely be forced to follow.

Mindscape displays Pearson's deep problem

I'might have been. We are going to narrow the focus of the business and concentrate on those areas where we have a strong position in the market." So said John Makin-

Nor, apparently, are the powerful egos, strong dynastic tendencies, and differing City allegiances of this industry the barrier to Pearson squandered £300m two years ago, his words might apply to the whole empire.

Mindscape has been an unmitigated disaster and Pearson has been at best economical with the facts about its problems. The City was led to expect break-even last year and ended up with a £7m loss. Even that bombshell, however, could not have prepared anyone for yesterday's £46m stunner.

Fortunately, Mindscape appears to be an isolated bowler, even if it rendered somewhat hollow Lord Blakenham's remarks at vesterday's agm about the integration of the recent Harper Collins educational books purchase and the brighter news on the television from. But it is symptomatic of a deeper problem - Pearson's inability to put much focus on the corporate manoeuvrings of the past few years. There was never any logic in the collection of oil, banking, china and leisure businesses that Pearson once was, but there hardly seems to be any more to the current mish-mash of education.

entertainment and information interests. When you are up against the likes of Reuters in the provision of information, and Disney, in the world of entertainment, mounting an effective challenge requires a marshalling of resources. It is simply asking too much for a business the size of Pearson to try and fight a war on so many fronts.

Pearson has to decide what it wants to be

tors two months ago could act as the catalyst the company needs to change. But they will have to chuck a large pile of sentimen-tal baggage overboard in the process. Getting rid of Madame Tussaud's and

Westminster Press and spinning off the book publishing arm might he a good first step. Because, at the risk of sounding like a scratched record, if they don't do it someone else will.

A happy honeymoon for the ALM

The flurry of new issues this week, including the glamorous if loss-making La Senza, is a reminder that the Alternative Investment Market is very nearly a year old, and a bonnier baby the Stock Exchange could not have hoped for. It would have been a brave forecast that predicted 142 companies trading on the new market by this early stage and a positively foolhardy one that promised that not one AIM stock would have gone bust in the first 11 months. Just like its ultimately ill-starred prede-cessor, the Unlisted Securities Market, AIM

has enjoyed a benign trading environment in which to put down roots. But that should not take away from its main achievement. which has been to convince institutional investors that it was worth a second look.

floating with a market value approaching £200m. This is now a serious market.

The cynical view of all this is that the last few months have actually been little more than a honeymoon period. The size of most AIM companies, the narrow spread of their activities and the limited management experience of many of their directors, mean that a disaster is only a matter of time. What will matter then is the extent to which the limited due diligence companies' advisers are forced to carry out will be found wanting. The market is strong enough to survive, but if the exchange's light regulatory touch is the cause, that might well finish it.

More of a concern is the lack of liquidity

and the usurious spreads imposed by the few market-makers willing to take on the risk of dealing in AIM shares. Even before you factor in dealing costs, the difference between buying and selling prices means a stock has to rise between 5 and 10 per cent just to recover the initial investment.

That is not an AIM-specific problem, however; it is the price you pay for investing in any small company. And it should not distract from the attractions of a good old-fashioned punters' market. As long as there is the prospect of picking the next Cafe Inns, up 48 per cent in March, or Firecrest, a 31 per cent rise last week alone, investors will

Pearson stuns City with £46m Mindscape loss

TOM STEVENSON City Editor

Pearson stunned shareholders at yesterday's annual meeting when the owner of Madame Tussauds and the Financial Times warned that Mindscape, a games software house it bought two years ago for £313m, would lose £46m this year. Analysis knew that the Californian business was in trouble, following a £7m loss in 1995, but the size of the shortfall exceeded even the most pessimistic forecasts.

Lord Blakenham, Pearson's chairman, signalled a continuation of the root-and-branch review of its failed diversification into multi-media, which has alpany's chief executive this year. The problems at Mindscape are expected to increase pressure on management to sharpen the media and entertainment combine's focus as a way of fending off the predators that are rumoured to be circling the

Despite a far-reaching shift from a loose collection of industrial and service businesses a few years ago to a better-defined information, entertainment and education group, Pearson is still viewed as a slightly sleepy, family-run concern whose break-up value might be considerably in excess review continues

market.

Lord Blakenham said just under half Mindscape's heavy losses would be due to poor trading, with the rest made up of a write-down against the development costs of products that would not now come to market, redundancy costs and a change in accounting treatment of software costs and

Anthony de Larrinaga, an analyst at Panmure Gordon, the stockbroker, said: "This has been a running sore and this is confirmation of it. It looks as though it will take quite a lot to turn this one around." Shares in Pearson, which had been



Lord Blakenham: Thorough

of the price tag given to the ulation, closed 18p lower at combined whole by the stock-

The expected losses at Mindscape were seized on by analysts as a reason to downgrade their profit forecasts for the year. Estimates were cut from about £274m for the 12 months to December to as low as £230m. For 1997 forecasts were trimmed to £310m from £335m.

Pearson bought Mindscape in April 1994, when the software industry was booming. Since then, the business has faced the collapse of the floppy disk market and intense price competi-tion for software, particularly CD-ROMs.

Pearson admitted that, in order to boost sales last year, lease a range of "mediocre" multi-media products before they were fully developed. It had tried to handle too many titles in too large a product range.
To return to profitability,

Mindscape will have to concentrate on its core markets this year to develop a range of better-selling games for 1997, analysts said. They were divided, however, on the chances of

An analyst said Mindscape's problems indicated that Pearson had overpaid for Mindscape, adding that its next large acquisition could be treated with



Unhealthy sign: The FDA rejection is a setback for Jan Leschly's SmithKline

SmithKline drug setback

SmithKline Beecham shares plunged yesterday after a key committee of the US Food & Drug Administration unexpectedly rejected one of the giant drug group's most promising new compounds. Sales of Coreg, a heart drug, had been expected by some US analysts eventually to be worth more than \$1bu (£660m).

Analysts' forecasts were yesterday being slashed to between zero and \$200m after the cardiovascular and renal drugs advisory committee on Thursday voted four-to-two against recsome caution by the market. ommending use of the treat-

for SmithKline, led by chief executive Jan Leschly, because rarely does the FDA overrule a committee recommendation.

Shares in the group slid 49.5p

to 662p, after dipping \$3% overnight in New York. One London analyst said: "The market is looking at this as a significant blow. Coreg was their highest-profile product and there were some very high expectations, particularly from US analysts, who were expecting to see sales of \$1bn-plus before the end of the century. That's going to have to be scaled back to say the least. There's no doubt

proved in the US for high blood pressure, its main application is as a treatment for congestive heart failure, which is a principal cause of around 40,000 deaths in the US every year and a contributory factor in a further 225,000. The success of clintrials caused their abandonment in February so that patients receiving the placebo could be given the new drug, which is being jointly developed with Boehringer Mannheim of Germany. The FDA committee said the trials' six-month length was insuffi-

cient to establish the efficacy of

Companies urged to move fast on VAT

ROGER TRAPP

Companies are being urged to move quickly to claim against the Customs and Excise for repayment of value-added tax because of the danger of legislation being introduced to limit the amounts payable.

The advice came yesterday from Alan Buckett, national chairman of the VAT Practitioners Group, in the wake of last week's landmark court victory by furniture company Primback. The Court of Appeal held that Customs had wrongly calculated the VAT payable on goods sold through interest-free credit deals ever since the tax was introduced in 1973.

Since Customs is appealing against the decision to the House of Lords, no claims can yet be made. But many of items such as televisions and washing machines as well as furniture are preparing proceedings in case the tax authorities

Many VAT experts calculate that - if interest is included - the cost to the Exchequer could be

as much as £5bn. Mr Buckett, a VAT partner at accountants Binder Hamlyn, said the scale of the potential claims could prompt the Govemment into introducing a time. limit. Ministers could also seek to pass wider anti-avoidance legislation, he added.

Customs said the idea was

It is also seeking to downplay the figures on the grounds that it is "extremely difficult to accurately quantify" the number of businesses that are in the same position as Primback.

It is understood that it believes the amount it would have to pay if it loses the House of Lords hearing will be less than

However, this case - which follows the revelation of a £6bn shortfall in VAT revenue for the financial year just completed is believed to be just the tip of

the iceberg.
Research just published by accountants Coopers & Lybrand suggests that the "worst-case scenario" could see the Treasury having to pay out between £30bn and £40bn over the next

three years. The biggest claim involves the Customs does not allow British companies to claim back VAT on the cost of cars purchased for their fleets.

The case, being brought in the name of the drinks company formerly known as Alliedcould lead to claims totalling

Lyons, is due in court shortly and £15bn to £25bn. Mr Buckett believes that

figure is exaggerated, with the true amount likely to be between £5bn and £7bn. He also suggests that the overall amount given by Coopers is too high, since it would approach the sum that was the total VAT collectpure speculation" at this stage. ed last year.

IN BRIEF

· Andrew Winckler, chief executive of the Securities and Investment Board, the City's top regulator, yesterday appealed for help from the pension fund industry to aid the compensation process for hundreds of thousands of victims of the £3bn misselling scandal. Mr Winckler admitted progress in the pension review had so far been heavily delayed. He said most of the obstacles in the way of achieving compensation for those who had been missold a personal pension had now been removed. He reiterated the regulator's threat to take action against pension companies or advisers who cause further delays.

• Edinburgh's Roslin Institute, hopes to raise between £25m to £30m from a flotation in early June. PPL uses so-called transgenic flocks of sheep to produce proteins which it is hoped can be used to treat a range of diseases including cystic fibrosis, emphysema and thrombosis and will provide products which both assist and prevent blood clotting. The first product, for cystic fibrosis, is not expected to be launched until 2001. The only protit in the company's nine-year life was £20,000 made in 1992.

 Oxford Molecular saw 15 million of its shares sold to raise £50m for its original venture capital investors yesterday. Brokers Cazenove placed the holdings with institutional investors. Derek Marsh, Oxford's finance director, said this was the first chance investors had to sell after a two-year standstill agreement following the hiotechnology computer group's flotation in 1994. The investors each sold between one-third and a half of their holdings.

• First National Bank, Abbey National's consumer finance subsidiary, has paid United News & Media £108m for Wagon Finance. one of the UK largest car finance companies. Wagon has about 5 per cent of the £20bn motor finance market and last year made pre-tax profits of £128m. Abbey said the deal is part of a move to lessen dependence on its core mortgage market.

· Costain, Camas and Rugby all warned about the dire state of the construction and building materials markets. They said the first half was difficult and indicated business may not improve

 Virgin has sold 90 former MGM cinemas to a management team led by Barry Jenkins and financed by CINVen in a deal valued at £68m. The ABC Cinemas formed part of MGM Cinemas which was sold in 1995 to a consortium led by Virgin.

Money pages in the Weekend section

- School fees: More than one way of skinning a cat 22 • Pensions for housewives: Who pays for progress? 22
- Investments: Global markets grow interdependent: 23
- House insurance: Premium cover at standard prices 23
- Feer of Finance: The housing boomlet Gas supply: The for-all leaves consumers cold

OECD deficit forecasts jolt EMU launch hopes

SARAH HELM

The prospect of launching the single currency in 1999 received another jolt yesterday when fresh economic forcasts predicted that both France and Germany would fail to meet the budget deficit targets in time. French and German budget

deficits will be above 3 per cent of gross domestic product in 1997, the year on which a country's economic performance will be judged, according to forecasts from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

Should France and Germany, the countries leading the drive towards the single currency, fail to meet the criteria, the 1999 launch date would have to be set back.

The decision on which countries qualify to join European confident that there will be a deep welfare and tax cuts.

Monetary Union is to be taken in early 1998, on the basis of the 1997 results, and both Germany and France have so far resisted any moves to weaken the criteria

The OECD forecasts, to be published shortly, were confirmed yesterday by Jean-Claude Paye, the secretary general. Although Mr Paye refused to give precise figures, he said: "The forecasts which have been made give something above 3 per cent for 1997."

The European Commission, which is due to publish its own economic forcasts on 15 May, showed no sign of concern over the OECD results, insisting that there was no reason to believe that the deadline for launching the single currency could not be met by Germany and France, as well as several other EU states. "We remain

significant number of countries ready to participate in monetary union in 1999," a Commission spokesman said.

However, the Commission's own forecasts are being awaited with some nervousness in Paris and Bonn. Germany already faces the prospect of Commission sanctions after overshooting the deficit limit for

Both France and Germany are certain to insist that the gloomy predictions can be overturned by new drives to cut public spending. French officials are talking of "draconian" measures to curb spending and list plans to limit spending increases to the rise in inflation over the next four or five years.

Recent German spending cuts have aimed at public savings of about 50bn marks (£22bn) in 1997 and include

Halifax caught in pension row

NIC CICUTTI

Halifax Building Society faces a mass withdrawal of millions of pounds of deposits by pension schemes because it refuses to let their members benefit from the free shares bonanza when it floats on the stock market next

The Society has been told by the J Sainsbury pension scheme, which looks after the supermarket giant's contributions, this specific case because we regard it as confidential between that it will pull out about £5m invested in Halifax's additional voluntary contributions deposit

account. A further £1m of annual payments made by the pension neme on behalf of the store's 2,000 AVC contributors is also set to be diverted elsewhere. The row looks likely to lead scheme who declined to be

to mass withdrawals from Halifax's AVC deposit account. which currently holds about £123m of savers funds on behalf of about 400 pension schemes. A Halifax spokeswoman said esterday: "We cannot discuss

This includes contributors to the AVC scheme, which is a deposit account." Other pension trustees, inchiding representatives of a £4bn

named, are also thought to be

close to withdrawing their money. Anger at Halifax's stance is being fuelled by the fact that it currently pays just 5.4 per cent of annual interest on its deposit account to AVC savers. By contrast. Abbey National's ourselves and our clients. Our equivalent account pays 5.94 board made the decision not to per cent at present.

POSTAL INVESTMENT **ACCOUNTS** CURRENT INTEREST RATES

EFFECTIVE FROM 4 MAY 1996

THESE ACCOUNTS ARE NO LONGER AVAILABLE TO NEW INVESTORS

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HT ACCOUNTS INVESTEST RATES

FT-SE 100 3751.6 -24.8 FT-SE 250 4545.3 -22.4

FT-SE 350 1902.2 -11.9 SEAQ VOLUME 944.9m shares, 35,639 bargains Gilts Index 91.57

Insurance merger protects against complete rout

Shares fell back again but would have suffered a savage mauling if two staid insurance groups had not confirmed that the merger bug is alive and die of last month.

The £5.4bn deal putting together Royal Insurance and Sun Alliance would, under more normal conditions, have set the stock market romping ahead; the admission that a bid approach had been made to Midlands Electricity would have provided the added glit-ter speculators dream about. To complete the perfect day for the bulls there was even talk that next week the Govern-ment would be prompted to

lower interest rates. But against the backdrop of the Tory poll beating and growing signs of inflationary pressures in the US shares really did not have much of a chance. The FT-SE 100 index, at one

supporting FT-SE 250 index off 22.4 at 4.515.3. Footsie has fallen 81.2 this week and is 105.5 below its peak hit in the mid-

Insurances, however, relished the appearance of takeover action - a development that had long been ru-moured, with Commercial Union given a hopeful run on Thursday.

Royal surged 67p to 437p and Sun 55p to 414p. The suspicion other deals will follow lifted GRE 38p to 271p, CU 25p to 015p and Legal & Gen-

Regional electricity compa-nies took heart from the Midlands approach. Southern. once the target for National Power, added 9p to 839p and Yorkshire Electricity op to 823p. Midlands jumped 38p to

some lost territoryn with NP

MARKET REPORT

of the year erGen, with 21 per cent of Mid-

lands, 21p up at 557p. BT and Cable and Wireless were friendless after the breakdown of merger talks. In busy trading BT gave up 13.5p to 338.5p and Cable 45p to 479p. Profit warnings added to the torture. Pearson slipped

18p to 677p and Rugby came off 3.5p to 122p. Adscene, the media group, tumbled 32p to 263p, and Costain, the construction group, 10p to 89p. BSkyB, the satellite television broadcaster, fell 20p to 454p ahead of figures on Tues-

day, British Petroleum, also with figures on Tuesday, lost 3p to 582p.

DEREK PAIN Stock market reporter

> symptoms, SmithKline Beecham crashed 49.5p to 662p as the US Food & Drug Administration turned down its Coreg drug for heart treatment.

The shares have been strong on hopes of FDA clearance and talk of a big deal. Glaxo Wellcome was caught in the SKB slipstream. losing 14p to 800p. Smith & Nephew continued to progress on its skin-growing

alliance, moving 3p to 197.5p. SkyePharma, the lan Gowrie Smith vehicle, made another return to market. The shares touched 87p, closing at 79p against a 75p placing price. Oxford Molecular gained

stockbroker, placed 15 mil-lion shares with institutions at 5.25p to 64p, on hopes of a deal

around 300p.
They came from the original venture capital backers of the group. It was the first op-portunity they have had to sell following a two-year lockin. The venture capitalists sold up to half their holdings.

MSB International, the computer group which made a sparkling debut on Thursday. fell 9p to 234p. The shares were sold at 190p. Colorvision, the electrical re-

tailer, had a see-saw session af-ter the Office of Fair Trading corrected a blunder over the company's consumer credit Down to 16p the shares

surged to 41p once the mistake was rectified. They closed at 32p, up 6p.
Pan Andean Resources

gained 6p to 96p on its Bolivian progress report and

with British Rail. chain, held at 54p as United Breweries, the Indian group, sold 3.8 million shares; it still

has around 7 per cent. Tottenham Hotspur's improving chance of a place in Europe next season lifted the shares 26p to 373p, with the nil paid rights in line, up 26p to 93. Arcon International Resources held at 35p; Finnish group. Outokumpu, was said to have sold its 4.5 per cent stake

It was also rumoured to to 2p at 193p in busy late have sold shares in another trading. Irish resources share, Ivernia West, unchanged at 83p.

Pemberton, a property group, held at 80p. It is bidding for the Ofex-traded Best Peninsular Homes, which has residential property in the South-west. The cash offer is

TAKING STOCK

ILadbroke Group raced back into the takeover arena in late trading after rumours swept the market that Bilton Hotels Corporation. known to be talking to the betting and hotel group, was raising £500m through a

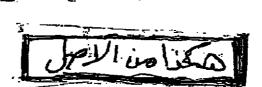
bond issue The latest story is HIIC, a US group, will mount a cash and share offer of 240p within the next few weeks. As part of the deal, Ladbroke's management will buy out the group's betting and casino

The shares cut an early fall

A bidder could be on the prowl for Harry Ramsden's. the renown fish and chip chain. The shares have been strong lately. They rose 14p to 384p compared with a 326p close on

plingwood ! first-ball tre

poole)
for Mi



oxon revels a

Pooley hits out for Middlesex

Cricket

DEREK PRINGLE reports from Lord's Middlesex 200 and 207-4 Gloucestershire 218

Middlesex showed just what a resilient side they are yesterday and why they cannot be disregarded as Championship contenders despite a wholesale rebuilding program. Yesterday. they simply did what they had to, which was to bowl Gloucestershire out and then take a lead by the close. They accomplished Gloucestershire now find them-

selves chasing the game. Starting their second innings with a deficit of 18 ruhs, the Loudon county began with an opening stand of 124. The pitch offered perceptibly less seam movement than on Thursday and neither Jason Pooley nor Paul Weekes looked at all troubled.

Possibly their left-handedness was a factor and with both batsmen stretching well forward, Kevin Cooper's probing swing, such a fertile source of wickets on Thursday, was neutered. While at the Pavilion

Collingwood keeps up first-ball tradition

HENRY BLOFELD

reports from Chester-le-Street Northants 273-3 v Durham

If neither county rose to any great heights on their opening day of the championship, it was not to be wondered at in such uncharitably cold weather. One player who will remember the day was Paul Collingwood, who became the second player in two days, after Middlesex's James Hewitt, to take a wicket with his first ball in first-class

The players struggled all day in the teeth of a fierce easterly wind after Mike Roseberry had put Northamptonshire into bat in the vague hope that his seam bowlers might have used the damp conditions to their advantage. There had been no play

Roseberry will not have been entirely unhappy at the way things turned out either. His 21year-old fast bowler, Melvyn Betts, starting his third season with Durham with the modest tally of 128 wickets to his name, not only took 4 for 99, his best figures, but also showed that his control has greatly improved.

He has a sprinter's approach to the wicket over 20 paces, he bowls from reasonably close to the stumps and for a time more than justified the three slips and a gully his captain gave him.

in the latter part of the morning, when Northamptonshire lost three wickets in 212 balls. he found an excellent partner in Michael Foster, a 23-year-old all-rounder whose career has already taken him from Yorkshire to Northamptonshire and on to

Durham. Yesterday, he was celebrating the award of a twoyear contract with Durham. He has a strong pair of shoulders and also bowls from close to the stumps, moving the ball towards the slips at just about medium pace. He and Betts shared those first three wickets

and might well have had more. Northamptonshire were given a solid start by Richard Montgomerie and Alan Fordham, who put on 69, Fordham contributing two massive pulls for six. These two and Mal Loye were then out in quick succession before Rob Bailey and Russell Warren steadied the

Roseberry was strangely reluctant to bring back Betts after lunch, but when he did so Warren drove loosely and was caught in the gully. Earlier Collingwood had marked his first-class debut with a fine catch two-handed to his left at second slip which accounted for Montgomerie.

innings with a stand of 68.

At 176 for 4, he came on to bowl and with his first ball yorked David Capel. Two runs later Bailey drove Betts tamely to mid-off but two dropped slip catches, excusable in this part he raised a lively pace and Curran and Tony Penberthy to A lengthy presence at the its ignominious departure from sweat, or taking off any of his left arm, but the tourists' bowl-moved the ball away from the give the Northamptonshire crease with Ramprakash to the World Cup in Calcutta last jumpers. In the end he was ing always looked a bit sharp for score a more respectable look. day, ought to absolve him.

both with some ease and End Mike Smith's line with the new ball was a fraction too wide to force early mistakes.

After starting less surely than his partner, Pooley moved into overdrive, hitting Jonathan Lewis for three successive fours. Pooley has a reputation for having a shrewd cricketing brain. If so, his game plan when Jack Russell introduced the first over of spin - shortly after three o' clock - was more village blacksmith than Voltaire as Richard Davis's two overs of left-arm spin from the Nursery End cost 18 runs.

When Smith did get his line right, Weekes, uncertain about whether or not to leave the ball, edged to Davis at slip. A few balls later Pooley followed, bowled off his pads by a persevering Coop-er, who looked as if he was about

ready for a long soak in the bath.
This year, Middlesex hope to video every ball during the season, although the comprehen-sive coverage does rather rely on someone remembering to pop out every three hours to

ange the tape. It may or may not prove instructive and an early viewer would probably have been John Carr, who looked more than a little befuddled as to how his offstump had come to be knocked back after he had pushed well forward to Smith, who then promptly removed Keith Brown, caught

off bat and pad at short-leg. David Follett, on the other hand, would probably want a dozen copies run-off, the early part of the day proving a par-ticular triumph for the Middlesex seamer. Before this match, Follett's career figures of 1-95, read like a batsman's wet dream. With Angus Fraser not moving as breezily as he had done the first evening, Follett impressively took command, finishing with 5-94, including the wicket of Jack Russell, who mis-hooked

Any hopes Gloucestershire had of taking a substantial first innings lead, quickly departed when Andrew Symonds was out to the first ball he faced. That his side ended with any kind of lead at all was due to a whirlwind last wicket partnership between Davis and the No 11 Smith, who flaved seven fours in an innings that even warmed Gatting's hands after m on four, at slip.

to Weekes at square-leg.



Tendulkar warms to the task

ROBERT WINDER

England's cricketers usually make quite a lot of noise about the need to acclimatise to the heat and humidity of far away places. So you had to feel sorry for India's touring team, which celebrated its arrival here with the traditional social encounter against Indian Gymkhana in west London vesterday. The tour manager, Sandip

Patil, described the game as a "good warm-up", but warm-up was very much not the operative word. An icy wind sliced across Heathrow and numbed fingers of a team that, since month, has played two one-day caught and bowled by a maths the home side. The Gymkhana

Singapore, Sharjah, Osterley the roll call of exotic cricket venues never seems to end.

India gave some of their players a chance to put in some serious autographing. Navjot Sidhu signed programmes, bats, books and old bits of tissue paper with his fingers stuffed up his sleeves, while the lucky recipients of his signature cried: "Look! Kumble!" Mohammad Azharuddin was busy having physio in the pavil-ion, and Srinath and Manirekar were also rested.

Batting first, India were not looking too pretty at 65 for 4, but Tendulkar, captain for the day, scored 70 without breaking

tournaments in Asia. Calcutta, teacher called Davinder Rehn-lost wickets steadily as they cy in what will, for sure, be a dining out moment for years to point. It is no longer the case that come. "He'd just smashed me for six," Rehncy said. "And then he hit a slower ball straight up

in the air. I thought about Courtney Browne dropping Tendulkar off one of those in the World Cup, but luckily I held it. He was amazing, actually, I was so nervous. You're bowling at Test batsmen and then you bowl at him, and it's another level."

India were all out for 184, not exactly an imposing total, but more than enough. Kunal Hazare, the 16-year-old grandson of a former Test captain, picked up 3 for 20 in eight overs of slow

tottered to 88 all out. Still, the result was hardly the

THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY O

cricketers need to get cobwebs out of their system: they never stop playing long enough. But the game did provide them with a quick reminder of what it means to bat on slow, seaming English wickets. But no one was injured and the crowd was happy - it was also about the same size as the one at most county matches, only more boisterous. At the end someone even started banging a drum, and what with the air full of tandoori

smells they could almost have

been at home. Apart from the

ONE-DAY FRIENDLY (Osterley) India 184 (39.5 overs; S. R. Tendulkar 70), Indian Gymkhana 88, India won by 96 nuns,

frost, that is.

Stark in pursuit despite mistake

Equestrianism GENEVIEVE MURPHY reports from from Badminton

David O'Connor retained his overnight lead on Custom Made during yesterday's second day of dressage at the Mitsubishi Badminton Horse Trials, but Ian Stark and Mark Todd are now within one penalty point of the leader as riders prepare for to-

day's cross-country.

At one stage O'Connor held the top two places for the United States, before first Todd and then Stark nudged the American's second mount, Lightfoot. back to fourth. Stark might have been leading for Britain but for a mistake in the second movement when the grey, Stanwick Ghost, broke into canter

during medium trot. "I got greedy," Stark said. "I committed the cardinal sin of asking for more when I already had enough." The Scot, so long a mainstay of the British team. was delighted with the grey thoroughbred who has the mis-

chievous mind of a pony. Stark is a mere 0.2pt behind the leader and just (Lopt ahead of Todd, the double Olympic champion from New Zealand, who is now third on Bertie Blunt. Last year Todd's stirrup leather broke and he rode most of the cross-country without one iron, finishing that phase in third place before Bertie Blunt failed the final horse in-

spection.
"Robert and Melita Howell, who own Bertie, have bought me some new stirrup leathers that I'll be using for the crosscountry," Todd said with a wry

O'Connor's second mount. Lightfoot, had a more serious problem at Boekelo in the Netherlands last October, when an ambulance ran into him while he was on the cross-country course. "I figured you have the right of way when you're riding the course, I didn't expect to be flipped over by an ambulance," O'Connor said. "We were both badly bruised after

O'Combor, US 41.8: S Bounder IV Jevens. NZ 43.0; 6 Just Jeveny II (L. Murray, GB) 43.2; 7 Broadcast News IV Latta, NZ 44.4; 8 Star Appeal (M Xing, GB) 45.0; 9 Trouble Shooter (H Bell, GB) 45.4; 10 New Flavour (L Law, GB) 46.2.

Moxon revels as Yorkshire hit record-breaking form

DEREK HODGSON

reports from Cardiff Yorkshire 536-8 dec Glamorgan 132-2

Welcome to Sophia Gardens the Home of Records. If coachloads of statisticians and computer nerds were expected for what promised to be a gala for the numerically literate, Glamorgan were disappointed. But there was a good crowd, the Bacon Baguette did record business and mere cricket-lovers could always shut their eyes to the scoreboard and enjoy the

After Thursday's cold misery,

within sight of

county record

Round-up

this was a sparkling May day, one fit for great deeds. The editor of Wisden's Almanack arwas hig enough for a major re-Martyn Moxon played two

maidens from Robert Croft. and after 15 minutes' play, in the 100th over, he pushed a single through midwicket off Darren Thomas to pass 323, a record for any Yorkshire wicket against

At 335 the pair passed the highest opening stand against Glamorgan (Barrie Dudleston and John Steele, for Leicestershire, 1975) and at 351 the highest for Yorkshire since the

Vaughan had reached 183 and rived horfoot, records tumbled was on course to overtake the regularly but, in the end, not one highest individual Yorkshire score against Glamorgan - 197 by Hutton in 1937 - when, carving at the new ball, he fell to a flying right-handed catch by Adrian Dale at cover.

The stand was worth 362 in 399 minutes and Vaughan's innings included 28 boundaries off 314 balls, not a bad entry for either his cv or for chairman Illingworth's notebook.

Yorkshire then tried to force the pace but Croft, switching to the Cathedral Road End, found increasing turn after David coming just before 3.15 with Byas had fallen to the persistent

war (Boycott and Moxon at Steven Watkin. Wisden's editor, Worcester in 1985). Michael seeing that the famous 555 stand of Holmes and Sutcliffe remained inviolate, set off to seek sensation elsewhere.

The distinction of being the first Tyke to take a double hundred off Glamorgan thus fell to Moxon, who completed the fifth double century of his career before becoming Croft's fourth victim when, after 413 balls and eight hours' batting, he mistimed a pull and was caught at deep fine leg.

Three more departed before Richard Blakey and Darren Gough, who was dropped twice, scored hits, the declaration Glamorgan being left 46 overs

387 to avoid a follow-on. When Hugh Morris, on one,

was dropped at first slip off Peter Hartley, the jitters could be sensed. But with a little luck, and the confidence to strike the looser ball, Steve James and Morris guided Glamorgan beyond tea.

With 76 raised and 23 overs negotiated, Glamorgan ap-peared to have reached safer water when James went to drive a ball from Peter Hartley that may have lifted - Thomas has made one or two fly from the River End - and was caught be-hind. Two overs later Adrian Dale could not avoid a straighter, similar delivery.

Middlesex v Gloucester

Kim Barnett's third double cen-

GLOUCESTERSHIRE - First Innings
(Overnight: 94 for 4)
A Symonds c Carr b Hewitt
M W Alleyne fow b Fraser
**RC Russal c Weekes b Foliett
R P Davis not out
I Lewis c Carr b Foliett
K E Cooper b Foliett
A M Smith b Foliett
Echase Ind., Juby tury of his career put Derbyshire in command against Leicestershire at Derby yesterday and took him a lot closer to becoming the highest scorer in the

county's history. The 35-year-old opener began the game requiring 383 runs to overtake the 20,516 set by Denis Smith, scored his 47th first-class century and, in his 35(ith appearance for the county, was finally dismissed for

His 100, his sixth against Leicestershire, came off 186 balls but he needed only 121 to complete his second.

Dean Jones declared at Barnett's dismissal with the score on 362 for 8. Leicestershire survived five overs to reach 11

Graham Gooch helped to put

without loss to 170 for 7.

Barnett moves Britagnic Assurance County Championship (Second day of four)

> (Middlesex won LOSS) MEDIOLESEX - First Innings 200 (K E Cooper 4-54).

200 by Alan Mullally.

for 0 at the close.

Essex in charge against Worcestershire. With the home side bowled out for 201 the new England selector bit 85 off 98 balls and shared an opening stand of 158 with Darren Robinson.

Neil Lenham hauled Sussex out of trouble after a dramatic collapse against Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge. Lenham, who broke his left index finger against Nottinghamshire last year, scored an unheaten 90 in a total of 279 for 8 after Sussex slumped from 84

Daws 7-0-39-0; Handock 2-1-2-0; Symbol 2-0-5-0. Umphres: J.W. Holder and M.J. Kitchen. Somerset v Surrey TAUNTON: Today: 11.0 (Somersel won toss)

Somersel won loss)
SURREY - Rust humide
(poemight: 34 for 2)
*A) Stewart b Shine
G P Thorpe o Turner b Shine
A) Hottoake b Lee
C C Lews o Turner b Shine
B P Judian b van Troost
16 J Rensel blue
R M Peasan not out
Sporas (107, vi3, nb10) Robus (87, w3. non-miles) Total (80.2 evens) Fast 3-52.4-55, 5-154, 8-281, 7-281, 8-117, 9-348, 117, 9-348, 18-5-95-6; van Troost 22-ther: Shine 24-5-95-6; van Troost 22-

317, 9-348. Bowling: Shine 24-5-95-6; van Troost 22-2-109-2; Luc 19-2-1-88-2; Rote 15-3-68-

LORD'S: Today: 11.0

Worcestershire v Essex WORCESTER Today: 11.0. (Essex non mas) WORCESTERSHIRE - First lankage Workerstressment | Section |
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Overright '78 for 4)
DA Leathertiele o Prichard o Wellens |
50 f Probles o Redires o Owner |
51 f Probles o Redires o Owner |
52 f R Lumber o George o Wellens |
50 f R K. Bergeroth C. Goods o Wellens |
51 f Party of George of Wellens |
52 f R Lumber of George of Wellens |
51 f Pa Thomas o Wellens |
51 f Pa Thomas o Wellens |
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55 f Owner |
56 f Owner |
57 f Owner |
58 f Owner |
58 f Owner |
58 f Owner |
59 f Owner |
50 f Owner Glamorgan v Yorkshire CARDITT: Today: 11.0. (Yorkshire won toss)

YORKSHRE - First lankage
-Deenight 315 for 0)
M D Mozon c Weithin b Croft
P Byss tow b Weithin b Croft
M B Moson c Dele b Buildher
P Byss tow b Weithin
M G Bevan st Metson b Croft
A McCrath c James b Croft
C White c Mornis b Croft
R I Blakey c Buildher b Croft 18 J Blatey c Butcher b Groft 38
D Gough not out 31
P J Hartley b Weder 20
Estrate (022, rh2) 24
Total (for 8 dec, 150.5 event) 536
Pall: 1 362, 2 385, 3 404, 4 416, 5 424, 8 476, 7 530, 8 536.
Dull not be A G Wharf, R D Stemp.
Score at 120 events 4 416
Bowling: Weden 28, 56 103 - 2 Thomps 26-3-89-0; Butcher 12 - 1 62 - 1; Berneck 29-12-70-0; Croft 45-11-133-5; Dulle 7 0 - 44-0; Croft 3 0-15-0.
ELAMONGAN - First Insings
S P James c Stakey b Hartley 40

CRICKET SCOREBOARD †R J Turner, G D Rose, P C L Hollowsy, K J Shine, A P war Troost. Bowfing: M P Bicknell 10-1-31-1; Laws 8-1-30-0; Luten 6-0-25-0; Hollowice 7-1-20-0; Pearson 4-0-7-0 Umplemer D J Constant and K E Palmer. Banvick.
Browfling: Gough 11-3-27-0; Hardey 13-3-40-2; A G 5-0-31-0; Stemp 12-7-18-0; Whate 6-3-13-0 Umpires: J D Bond and P Wiley.

Derbyshire v Leicestershire. DERBY: Today: 11.0 DERBY: Today: 1.1.0

(Leicosterarire wan toss)

DERBYSRINE - First benings

K J Barnett not out

A S Rollins c Nigon b Mulially

C I Adems c Wells b Parsons

31

TO M Jones c Parsons b Person

37

T A Tweetes c Nicon b Mulially

A0

P A J DeFrettes c Nicon b Mulially

O G Cott c Wells b Mulially

O H M Niches b Parsons

43

Extras (b2, 87, w3, rb2)

14

Total (for 8, 96.3 overs)

362

Fett: 1-15, 2-79, 2-132, 4-151, 5-252, 6-258, 7-362, 8-362 Total (for 8, 96.3 overs) 362
Patt: 1-15, 2-79, 3-132, 4-151, 5-252, 6-258, 7-258, 8-362.
Dist Not Batt: P Aktred. D E Maicolm.
Bouiling: Millins 19-0-97-0; Mulioly 24-3-83-5; Persons 16.3-1-59-2; Wests 14-2-41-0; Person 16-4-63-1; Maddy 7-3-10-0.
LISCESTERSTREE: G I Machiller, V J Welts.
J J Whitaker (Copt) B F Smith, A Habb., D L Macdy, P A Nibon (Mid.), G J Parsons A R K Pierson, D J Milling, A D Mulielly. Leicastershire with toss and decided to field Umpress: J C Balderstone and R Palmer

1-241.
To Bate J E Emburey, J P Toylor,
Bowling: Brown 23-5-57-0; Betts 24-4-994; Foster 21-4-57-1; Barnhridge 9-4-14-0;
Bohing 21-10-30-1; Collingwood 7-2-13-1 DURBIANE *M A Roseberry, S Hutton, J A Da ley, J E Morris P Bambridge, P D Collingwood M J Foster, TC W Scott, J Bolling, S J E Brown

Usspirest, K. J. Lyons and A. G. T. Whitehead Nottinghamshire v Sussex. (Sussex won toss)
SUSSEX - First finnings
C W J Athey b Pennett.
J W Hall a Noon b Pennett.
M P Speght b Afford
A P Wells at Noon b Afford N J Lenham not out EP Moores low b Evans

Other matches Oxford University v Hampshire

THE PARKS: Today: 12.0.
(Chical University star toss)
HAMPSHIRE - First Inshage
(Oversign: 284 to 7)
†A N Aymes & Batty b Malik M A Wagh not out H S Maak not out

No play yesterday BRITANNIC ASSURANCE COUNTY CHAM-PIONSHIP: Conterbury: Kent 63 for 2 y Lan-

Starting tomorrow

(2.0 unless stated) ANA Equity & Law
League (I day) berty: Derbyshre v Leicestershire. Chester-le-Street: Durham v
Northamptorshire. Carditi: Gumorgan v
Yorkshire. Cardenbury: Kert v Luncashire
Lord's: Middlesex v Gloucestechire Trent
Bridge: Noting genshire v Sussex Tawaton:
Somaret v Sunty Worcester: Worcestershire
v Essox.

Tomics March (I day) Arundak League

Tourist Match (1 day) Anuadet Lavina, Duchess of Noriolis's XI v India (11.00). Other Metab (final day of three) Ferner's Cambridge University v Warwickshire (11.30)

BRANCH INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS CURRENT INTEREST RATES

EFFECTIVE FROM 4 MAY 1996

THESE ACCOUNTS ARE NO LONGER AVAILABLE TO NEW INVESTORS

| | 'etan | ستن. اللاما، | | CARL | | ~Com | * Larry | - 34 |
|---|--|---|---|---|--|--------------------------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| 120 DAY ACCOUR | PT 11/1 | | | | £40,000 or more | | | |
| | 5.15 | IIII) & . | 4.12 | • • | | 2.15 | - | 1.72 |
| £50,000 or more | • | • | 1.12 | • | £15,000 - £39,949 | 1.45 | - | 1.16 |
| (2534k) - (249,999 | 4.15 3.55 | • | 284 | - | £10,000 - (24,999 | 1.00 | - | (LSD |
| £10,000 - £24,999 | | | | - | £1,000 ~ £4,994 | ₽.6.5 | • | 17.52 |
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| £50 - £4,409 | 0.50 | • | 0.40 | • | £50 - [494 | (J_St) | • | 0,40 |
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| (St),DBD or more | 4.15 | - | 3.32 | - | £100,000 or more | 4.66 | 4,71 | 3.08 |
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| 150 - 12 499 | 9.50 | - | 0.40 | - | CURRENT ACCOU | ner' | | |
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| £25.000 · £39.949 | 2.35 | - | 1.88 | : | £1.500 · £9.499 | 11 61 | 0.60 | 0.48 |
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4 Tax-free provided no wall-describe of capital are made during the 5-scar term and Terms & Conditi i Interest is not paid on halonous below £50 unless the accorner holder in registered as being under 22 years of ogn. Fleare contact your local brunch for full depaid. is mark venture, your needs or name nor estimentable.

6 Holders of statements, Northern Rock it result is economic are still able to revers in this share account. The trunimum opening balance requirement was reduced to £1 on 3 April 1906.

NORTHERN ROCK Northern Road Bookhop Sweets, Principal Office, Northern Road, House, Conducto, Newcostk upon Tyte NF.1 4PL

The FA are really terrified that the idea might get about that women footballers are a bunch of lager-swilling laddesses

handedly revived the popularity of football literature with All Played Out, his compelling account of the 1990 World Cup campaign, has a new love in his life. Gone is his infatuation with Waddle and Lineker, Robson and Robson, 4-1-2 and Gazza's tears (although over this past month, we've all learnt there was nothing unusual in Gazza blubbing when the football didn't go his way: he is after all, just a Geordie). And in its place has come a desire so profound that Davies has moved his house to be close to its source, given up lucrative work to pursue it. spent most of his weekends in search of it. In short, Pete Davies has lost his heart to the Doncaster Belles. That's the title of his superb new book about women's football, a fly-

leading female outfit, a sort of elongated love note to 15 hard-working,

hard-playing, female fanatics.

"The title's not a joke," Davies said. "I did, honestly, I lost my heart to them. I knew the club existed, but i didn't know any more. Then a friend told me he was making a television film about them and suggested it would make a good article. The moment I met them I knew there was a book in it, they were so passionate, so involved. I went to write about them for a week and stayed

for two years."

Davies's new tome is as intimate a chronicle of a football team as can have been written. He followed the girls to work, to training, to the pub; it's all there, the camaraderie, the petty jealousies, the battles with the else hates them. Most of the 2,110

on-the wall picture of the country's blazers at the FA. And the fact it's about women - generally derided by media and public alike for the man-ner in which they trundle around in pursuit of the ball - makes the plea-

sure of it all the more unexpected. "There's no question the quality of the women's game is very high," Davies said. "I want this book to proselytise. I passionately believe ese people deserve reward, recog-

In an attempt to make an early convert, Davies invited me to the women's FA Cup final at Millwall's New Den last Sunday. Doncaster Belles, his loves, weren't even play-ing. The finalists were Liverpool and Croydon, the Manchester United of women's football, not because they are any good, but because everyone

Jim White



New Den's fancy stands were women and many of them, judging

by the tone of their heckling, play-ers themselves: "that's crap that is; release it early; lay it off, girl."

The game was, in truth, a scrap-py affair, the players looked tense, shots were scuffed, passes were misplaced as a matter of course. "Just like a Premicrship game," Davies smiled. It seemed inevitable it would go to penalties and that Croydon would grind out a win, by dint of missing fewer. But there were enough touches - Liverpool's No 7 Karen Burke was a class act - to suggest it was the occasion rather than a lack of ability that was to blame. Davies, though, was worried by the occupants of the directors' box. Graham Kelly and Bert Millichip were in there, the men who have recently taken over the women's game, and come out of his book as the villains. Here they were actually bothering to turn up to a women's match and it wasn't

to the women's game," Davies said. But there's very little evidence of that. I honestly feel they are uneasy with the concept of women playing football. They're certainly going to hate this book. They're obsessed with image. They're really terrified that the idea might get about that women footballers are a bunch of lager-swill-Are they?

"Yes," he says, "But that's the point. They're ordinary people for whom football makes something of lives that would be otherwise remorselessly bleak. That's what I'm trying to communicate with this book it's a beautiful game that can do that."

Davies, you feel, has his work cut out acting as the game's unofficial PR man. This was how Alan Green

"The FA say they are committed announced the result of the match to Radio 5 listeners: "And we've just heard that Liverpool have been beaten by Croydon in the I'A Cup final. But don't panie, it's only the Ladies' FA Cup final."

pouble-

AS to prove the

toughne

That kind of thing doesn't deter

"It's going to be massive this game," he says, "If some smart company gets involved now in sponsoring it, they could achieve an aw-

ful lot in the long term." And how about his own long term, has he got a daughter?
"Yes."

Is she any good at the game? "She's three," he smiles, "But she can't half trap a ball." "I Lost My Heart to the Doncaster Belles" is published by Heinemann on

Schumacher's charge lifts Ferrari fans

DAVID TREMAYNE reports from Imola

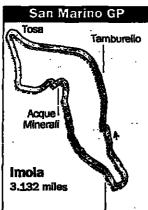
As the sun warmed away morning rain. Michael Schumacher gave Ferrari's delirious fans exactly what they had come to see when he recorded the fastest time in practice here yesterday for tomorrow's San Marino Grand Prix.

The world champion used all of his famous repertoire of raw speed and car control as he powered the red machine around in glorious slides, raising eyebrows along the pit road and hopes among the tifosi, the Italian Ferrari enthusiasts.

A year ago Schumacher was one of their villains and Jean Alesi and Gerhard Berger their heroes. But times change. The volatile Frenchman no longer enjoys a place within tifosi hearts after his winter outbursts against the team. There were only crocodile tears when he finished the day in 13th place.

Alesi's excessive brio does not always endear him to Benetton either. In Germany a week ago a reckless attempt to pass Mika resulted in instant retirement af-

achieved with the standard V10 engine, and without using a set of fresh tyres - the latter ploy catapulted Rubens Barrichello's Jordan-Peugeot into second place ahead of the European Grand Prix winner Jacques Vil-



Schumacher's speed yesterday caught many on the hop, particularly since it had been

leneuve in the closing stages.

"I am feeling confident," said Schumacher who only a week ago had suggested that he felt the very opposite about his prospects on a circuit whose numerous bumps would not suit his car. "We did a lot of work on set-up today and used less fuel than we normally do on a Friday in order to conserve our tyres [drivers are allowed only seven sets of tyres per weekend]. We still have a lot of work to do," Schumacher said. Damon Hill echoed that sen-

timent as he languished a relatively lowly sixth separated from his Williams-Renault partner by Mika Hakkinen's McLaren and Olivier Panis's Ligier. His run was interrupted by an altercation with Andrea Mantermini's Forti, which resulted in a trip across the edge of a gravel bed. Hill was cautious in summarising his day. "You can always expect Ferrari to go

quickly here," he said, "and they were close to us in Germany too, so I expect Saturday's qualifying to be close and very exciting. The circuit was very slippery today and it's uneven

set up the car." Williams spent all day juggling with the springs and damners in its cars' suspension systems to try and find the optimum handling balance, and Hill added: "I have some-

thing in hand for qualifying." Imola is of course a circuit that holds mixed memories for Hill and the Williams team. They won here last year but it was during the San Marino Grand Prix in 1994 that Ayrton Senna was killed while trying to resist the challenge of Schumacher and Benetton. As he goes out in search of his 15th pole position this afternoon Hill knows he must win here to exorcise the old ghosts of questions about his psychological frailty raised by his disappointing race in Germany last week. Cynics, meanwhile, say they will believe Ferrari's apparently dramatic progress if it is re-

CHARLACE PROGRESS II II IS TEpeated today — and tomorrow.

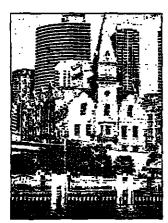
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Michael Schumacher pushes his Ferrari to the fastest time in practice yesterday

Photograph: John Marsh/Empics

SEVEN EXOTIC HOLIDAYS TO BE



WIN A TRIP **SINGAPORE** AND **SYDNEY**





oday is the last day of our exotic holiday competition. We have teamed up with KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, Trailfinders and Four Seasons ◆ Regent Hotels and Resorts, the world's leading luxury hotel group, to give away six fabulous holidays for two to Toronto, Bangkok, Bali, Mexico, Los Angeles and Tokyo.

Today we are giving away our seventh and final prize, a holiday for two to Singapore and Sydney. The prize is for two KLM return World Business Class tickets via Amsterdam and Singapore, including two nights stopover at The Regent Singapore with breakfast, and seven nights accommodation, including breakfast, at The Regent Sydney.

Located in the heart of the city's entertainment and shopping district, The Regent Singapore is renowned for having amongst the most friendly and efficient staff in the world. Just check-in and let yourself be treated to the fitness centre with gym, steam bath and spa pool facilities, an outdoor pool set in a landscaped setting and five acclaimed restaurants including Maxim's de Paris and its famous Hotel bar. The stunning lobby atrium has glass elevators and lush greenery making it a perfect place to unwind after a hard day's sightseeing or shopping before retiring to the comfort of your room to prepare for another evening exploring Boat Quay and the other lively nightlife areas of Singapore.

The Regent Sydney, a sculptured sandstone tower, provides a view of the most spectacular sights of Sydney such as the harbour, the landmark Opera House and Sydney Harbour Bridge. In a city famous for its restaurants and bars. The Regent Sydney is a frequent choice with its five innovative restaurants and lounges that offer an inviting selection of food, refreshment and entertainment. The hotel features the largest outdoor hotel pool in Sydney with adjacent sundeck, boutiques and sundry shops, and Sydney's finest ballroom.

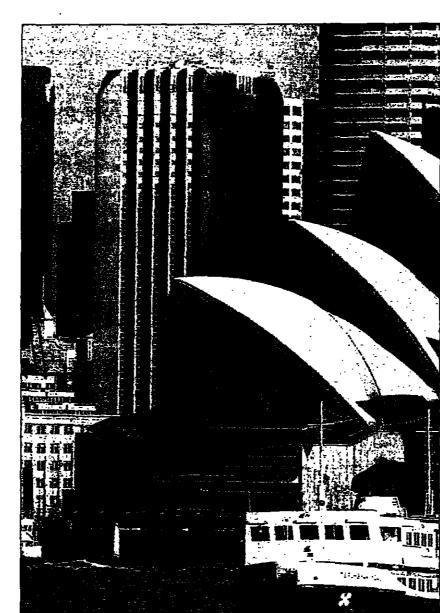
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For a chance to win our holiday for two to Singapore and Sydney, simply answer the follow-ing question: About how far is Singapore from the Equator? a) 10 miles b) 100 miles c)1000 miles Call our competition line and leave your answer, name, address and daytime telephone number:

0891 161 638 Lines close at midnight tonight. Calls cost 39p per minute cheap rate, 49p per minute at all other times and last less than two minutes. The winner will be selected at random from all correct entries. Normal Newspaper Publishing plc rules apply. The Editor's decision is final.

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The Regent Hotel, with Sydney Opera House in the foreground

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she said. "When I realised that tors breached the 1976 Euro-have to amend legislation." bink certificates and passborts." I missioning uses we have to amend legislation.

he retir

fun Glo

Double-chasers to give and receive no quarter

Twickenham will be resplendent today when 75,000 - a world-record attendance in club rugby - witness a fitting Pilkington Cup final between the two hest teams in England, both of whom announced last month that they would not be back for more next season.

How strange this rugby world has become with professionalism breaking out all over, and so many people apparently wanting to see it that HQ has been sold out for this match since before the quarter-finals, when Bath's and Leicester's arrival in the final could be no more than a well-educated guess.

would voluntarily forgo next scason and somehow the thought of their own incestuous cup competition culminating in a game at, say, Wembley does not have the same allure. Always provided the Rugby Football Union does not find a way of overshadowing today's august occasion, this fundamental and rather awkward truth will be

handsomely revealed. Given the unpredictability of the RFU/clubs dispute - you know, the one about how professional club rugby is to be controlled and financed - nothing about cup-final day should be taken for granted. Indeed, it needs only a 12-month hindsight to see mobile forward play, should that Bath's display in thrashing anticipate quite the opposite.

Wasps in the 1995 final was large- "We need a fast and open game ly forgotten because the union chose that very day to depose Will Carling as England captain.

If we can forget the politicking for one afternoon, we could should - be in for a treat. But alas for optimism, matches between Bath and Leicester habitually promise more than they deliver, the awful 1994 final being a case in point, but if for once the theory of a fascinating clash of styles could be matched in practice, it would be a grand finale.

What fun it is for Dean Richards to pretend that his Leicester side, who have built results and reputation on immovable and to an extent im-

and that's what we play at Leicester week-in week-out," he quipped for the benefit of television viewers the other day.

Doubtless the final could do with being "fast and open", but not withstanding the consummate finishing of their wings Rory Underwood and Steve Hackney, the Tigers should not be expected to con-tribute greatly in that respect. Back in the real world, Richards offers this nugget: "We won't re-veal our tactics, but everyone knows where our strength lies."

So at least Bath know what to expect. "They've taken a lot of flak for their style, but as they've dealt effectively with us in recent matches, we can't criticise

neutral's opinion of this type of rugby - and there is no such thing as a neutral at Welford Road when Richards is numbling up the middle of the field - it is undeniably effective, so much so that the only unpredictable thing about it is that now and

again Leicester lose.

Last Saturday, Harlequins achieved what only Bath and Saracens had done this season and the league title duly reverted to Bath from Leicester. Experience, both their own and of others, teaches the reinstated champions that although they have to match the muscular Tigers at close quarters, the op-

them," Phil de Glanville, the close quarters in the first place. Bath captain, said. Whatever a "Anyone looking at the two sides would realise that the way one might think they could beat the other would be to keep the game fairly close, and the other side might play in a more flex-ible manner." Brian Ashton, the Bath coach, said. No prizes for guessing which is which. The absence of the injured le-

remy Guscott and Ben Clarke will disturb Bath more than they might care to admit, but Bath's strength has always been more collective than individual. With the Double in their sights, it is unthinkable to back against them.

PATHS TO FINAL Buth Fourth goard Northampton (in) 12-3. Fifth round Valenfald (a) 16-12.

Quarter-final Bristol (a) 18-12. South-final Sourcester (b) 19-10. Leicenter: Fourth round Enter (a) 27-0. Fifth round Sourcest (a) 47-0. Fifth round Sourcest (a) 40-16.

County-Field Indicators (b) 24-9. South-final (or-

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| N Redman | 5 | M Poole |
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Points to prove: Bath and Leicester each have a man eager to impress the England selectors and capable of turning the final

Callard can rely on mental toughness

Bath - being indispens-able, it is stretching a point to suppose that Jonathan Callard is the man the champions and would-be cup-winners cannot do without. But that is the way it looks after a baleful experience at the hands of his club selectors.

Moreover, when Bath play Leicester in this afternoon's Pilkington final before an international-sized crowd of 75,000 at Twickenham, Callard will also have a point to make to England's selectors. In his alltoo-brief Test career he has scored at an average very nearly as high as the 14 points per game of the New Zealand metronome Grant Fox.

It has not sufficed. Jack Rowell wants a "strike" full-back and the consistent Callard is evidently not it. That he has remained on the England bench is a tribute to his usefulness, if not quite indispensability, but when Bath also put him there only two months ago, remember - it was complete folly as well

as fundamentally unfair. Not that Callard let it affect him other than as a stimulus. "I've been through it before, had the experience, and know go overboard in self-justification and anyway the only thing to do

was to fight it out." Callard, who was 30 on New Year's Day, has this season been an unfortunate victim of circumstances beyond his control. Recalled to win his fifth cap against South Africa last November, he then promptly lost his place when Rowell decided he did not like the look of Mike Catt at outside-half and wanted

him back at full-back. Catt subsequently informed Bath he wished to be considered only in his England position and after Callard had missed most

o one - least of all at of his kicks in the narrow-squeak cup-tie at Wakefield he was dropped by Bath too. though he wryly reflects that three different excuses were made by three different people: captain, coach and manager.
As it turned out, Callard was

a replacement only once - the quarter-final at Bristol - and his value was definitively proved when Bath, Callard-less because he was attending a memorial service, lost last month at Gloucester, a defeat that very nearly cost them the championship. Coincidentally, the reluctant Catt has been playing out of his skin at stand-off. "I look back now on the

South Africa game and, even accepting we made basic mistakes, we weren't given a second chance to see if we were good enough against the Western Samoans in the next match," he said. "There was a knock-on effect because of Mike's desire to play full-back but I believe the club are better off playing the pair of us than pitting one against the other."
So it has transpired. Once the

Gloucester defeat had happened, there was never any doubt that Catt would be the cup-final outside-half and Richard Butland, who missed the kicks at Kingshohn, now consigned to the replacement role.

Over recent weeks Callard has been considering his future, one of the many who have been subject to approaches from other clubs. As his relationship with Bath has always appeared equivocal, it would be no great surprise if he took what was on offer elsewhere - except that the hire and allure of this great rugby institution remain almost impossible to resist.

Callard was born in Leicester - a nice irony, given today's opposition - of Welsh parents



more match.

as Webb had retired in 1993,

Callard himself was the England

full-back, most memorably

landing the last-kick winning

penalty against Scotland in

1994. What was that about tri-

of the Murrayfield hero's Eng-

land career was to last one

the good times without going

through the bad as well," he

said. "Being at Bath instils you

with the mental toughness to

get through the disappoint-

ments. It's almost a form of

character assassination but you

do come through it a better per-

son. If you don't, you've failed

anyway." Meaning that for Jon

Callard failure would be no

more or less than losing to

Leicester today.

"You can't fully appreciate

but was raised in Newport and made it as far as an extended Wales training squad during his time with the Newport club. In fact his move to Bath in 1989 was prompted mainly by a desire to enhance his Wales chances, but within weeks of the change he had been offered and accepted a place on an England B tour to Spain.

The following season he withstood the challenge of another newly arrived full-back, Jon Webb, and played in the cupfinal annihilation of Gloucester. But in the 1990-91 season Webb, who went on to become England's record scorer, established himself and Callard had to content himself with mostly second-team rugby for three long years.

Small wonder, then, that he is so fatalistic. Almost as soon

Back looking forward to ferocious game eil Back has spent his squad for five years so I was to-career in the shadow of tally bemused," Back said, "It

men he describes as the "back row giants" but today in the Pilkington Cup final at Twickenham, he resumes rivalry with a player he does not look up to, at least in the physical sense. Back against Andy Robinson promises to be an open-side show that will run and run.

We don't really talk off the field," Back said. We have a silent respect for each other." Both are old fashioned tearaway flankers. They may not win possession in the line-out but their speed provides a vital link between forwards and backs. By nature they are attacking players and also decisive tacklers.

"Andy is a bit smaller than me although he wouldn't like to bear it," Back said. "In any case, size has nothing to do with it. You're either good enough or you're not.'

The other thing they have in common is that both have been rejected by England, Jack Rowell, the manager, himself a former back row forward of the extra large school, believes big is beautiful although he had a rethink following the annihilation Rodber, Dean Richards and Ben Clarke) in the World Cup semi-final against New Zealand in Cape Town last summer.

Back to the future? It did not work out like that. "Jack said he would revert to an out and out open-side flanker for this season and that took huge pressure off me." Back said. "I thought at long last I'm no longer competing against the back row giants.

I felt relaxed, confident." Back took another kick in the teeth. For the game against South Africa at Twickenham last November, Rowell went for an out and out open-side but it was not Back it was Robinson. 'Andy hadn't been in the England

has never been explained to me. I had a conversation with Jack but it wasn't very constructive. Although I was confused i wasn't disheartened because Andy and I are of similar stature and I still thought there was a place for me."

He thought wrong. Out went Robinson —"I thought he had a good game against the Springboks." Back said - and in came the towering figure of Lawrence Dallaglio. For the first time since 1985 Back is not part of an England squad al-though he played for his coun-try in the Hong Kong Sevens. He has been through the lot -England Under 18's, Colts and the B team before winning his first full cap against Scotland

It was the first of only five. No sooner had he established a place for himself in the World Cup, playing in the victories over Argentina, Italy and Western Samoa than he pulled a hamstring. "I've been playing rugby for 20 years and that's the first muscle I've ever pulled. The timing couldn't have been worse. of the England back row (Tim Things were going really well and I'd have probably played finals. Instead the big men came back into Jack's head."

England, of course, beat Australia with Rob Andrew's famous drop goal but were hammered by the All Blacks and Back thought he would win back his place for the thirdfourth place play-off against France. Again he thought wrong and Rowell kept faith with a jaded team. "That was terribly disappointing," Back said, "but I've got a strong chin. I've taken enough knocks."

This season Back, at 5ft 10in an inch or two taller than Robin-



He worked with a personal fitness adviser on a 12-week programme. "I wanted to become fittest I've ever been.

If that curious blond mane (a cross between a floopy wedge and an Eton cut - the man to blame is his elder brother lan. a hair stylist) has been less in evidence this season it is perhaps down to the Leicester style and more responsibility at work. Back, who is 27, heads a team of 12 as a personal pensions supervisor. "The balancing act between work and play is becoming very tough. The got five good years left in rugby. I still want to play for England

and Leicester and when that's

38 Aberdeen v Fakurk 40 Celec v Radin......

41, Hibernian v Partick... 42, Kilmernock v Range 43, Motherwell v Neens

14 Dundee v St Johnston 15 Dunfemiling v Airdne .

46 Morton v Dundee Utd.

North Warwickshire v Viest Hentonishire (12.0).

WOMEN'S COUNTY CHAMPTONSHIP (Bournemouth): 10.0 hent v Yorks, Suffolk v Dosset: 11.45 Oxon v Devon; Surrey v Durham; 2.0 Final,

NUOWEISER CHAMPIONSHIP Final 131 Weming Arena).

2.30); Stangbouthe v Exeter (2.0)

HOUNGER CUP Final: Hayes v So Hounslow HC, 2.0).

47 Hamilton v Dumbert 48 St Mirren v Clydebar

54 Alica v Governix

Basicothali

Leicester, whom he joined in able me to give 100 per cent. cent of my potential if you employers can give me a position which will allow me to devote more time to the game."

Today a forward called Back

The retiring Bezani plays down emotion

separate Pontypridd and Neath for the Swalec Cup final at Cardiff Arms Park today but if emotion was a factor then Nigel Bezani's team would be clear favourites. Bezani retires at the end of the season at the age of 39 and despite captaining one of the most consistently successful sides in Wales his cupboard is bare.

Pontypridd have appeared in two finals and lost them both, to Bridgend in 1979 and to Swansea last year when they also finished runners-up in the league. Bezani, whose nine-year-old daughter Lucy will accompany him as the club's "official mascot" when he leads out the team, said: This match is not about a fond farewell for Nigel Bezani because there is no room for sentiment in a cup final. Instead it is all about our players going back to the Arms Park to prove that we

Pontypridd pursue calmness in today's Swalec Cup final. Tim Glover reports

club and that we deserve a place

Twelve months ago Pontypridd stayed in a Cardiff hotel prior to the final, which they lost 17-12, and Bezani admits it was a mistake. "We became more and more wound up and all it did was to add to the nervous tension." Pontypridd suffered from stage fright and Neil Jenk-

ins missed a string of penalties. This season Jenkins has scored 88 points in four cup games and if the final was to be decided on goal-kicking, the form of the Wales outside-half gives Pontypridd an edge. Although Patrick Horgan, the Neath scrum-half,

landed a match-winning penalty against Newport in the semi-final, he is not regarded as a specialist kicker. But then the Neath style has very little to do with kicking, and all to do with moving the ball

number, believes Jenkins is playing the best rughy of his career. "Everyone knows he is a superb goal-kicker but he has not had the credit he deserves for leading the line. "We know we have played

five years without winning anything but that does not increase the pressure on us. Last year we froze. That won't happen again. We are older and wiser." They are certainly older than

Neath who have the youngest back line ever to appear in a final. Darryl Jones, a teacher at Neath College, has eight of his former pupils in a team capable of playing breathtaking rugby. Jones, though, is resigned to

although we would make sure he went for the right reasons."

Neath were the first club to win the Cup, in 1972, and they have never met Pontypridd in the competition. "I don't think either team can be optimistic," Jones said. "We can win the Cup if we perform as we are capable but I imagine Pontypridd feel exactly the same."

3.0 unless stated

frad v Rhyt; (Newtown v Inter Cardiff (2.30). BASS BRISH CUP Final: Glenseon v Glentoran (Windsor Park, Belfast) AVON BISURANCE CORRESPONDING Pirst Divi-sion: West Harry Brighton (11.00) (Chadwell Heath)

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE First Division: Billingham Swithern League

2 Bristol Rovers v Wycombi 4 Cartele v Snstol City 6 Hull v Bradford 7 Oxford Uts v Peterboro 8 Rotherman v Wresham

THERD DIVISION

15 Cambridge Utd v Leyton Orient . 15 Chester v Mansfeld jetic v Bedington Tenters; Tow Law Town v Ducham City; Whittly Town v Guisborough Town.

Rughy League
Stones super League: Workington v Halitse
(6.0).

caster v Beth (3.0)

OURAGE CLUSS' CHAMPIONSHIP No Magne Throst: Roscher Pro-Hockey
HOCKEY ASSOCIATION CUP Sami-finate (AR-ton Repeat Stadium): 10.15 Teddingon v Rest-ing 1.0 Old Loughtonare v East Caretead.
MIRER LEADLE PLAY-OFFS: 3.45 Vistoragion v Harborne; 8.30 Hampstood & Westminster v On-ford Heads.

WOMEN'S COUNTY CHAMP

son, has built himself up to 14 WEEKEND FIXTURE GUIDE

23 Scurthorne v Darfineto **GM VALDIHALL CONFERENCE** 26 Bromsgrove v Halflax ...

29 Kettering v Stalybridge 30 Mecclesfield v Hednesford 31 Morecambe v Kidderminst 33 Slough v Runcom

35 Woking v Southport YCS LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION 36 Hitchin v Walton . 37 Yearing v Bishop's Stortford 38 Yearing v Errield asketball

Speedway
PREMIER LEAGUE: Bradlord v Covertny; East-bourne v Cadley Heath & Stoke.
SPEEDWAY STAR CUP first round, second ing: Swindon v Odord.

Other sports ING: WEG Inter-c reight title: A Dock CYCLING: Theates GP Tour of Lancachire.

anes. Mottof: RACING: British Formula Three Chem. Ploriship (Doningan); Auto Tagder RAC British Tayr-ing Car Championship (Thruston). SNOONER: Embassy World Championship (Cru-ciole Theatre, Sheffield). TENNES: Davis Cup Euro/African zone Group Tivo: Great Britain v Slovens (David Lloyd Centre, New-castle): LTA Spring Satellife (Queenswood).

TOMORROW

Rugby League

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ton (6.0); Leeds v Landon; St Helens v Oldfren
Wagen v Peres (6.30). First Different Ca.50); Sal
ford v Rechtale (6.0); Witness v Weinfield. Sea
ford v Rechtale (6.0); Witness v Weinfield. Sea

Rugby Union COURAGE CLUBS' CHAMPIONSHIP Nationa League One: West Hartlepool v Bristol (3.0)

Photograph: Peter Jav Neil Back, Leicester's flanker and a half stone, putting on 12b. over I want to concentrate on

He has not yet signed with

more powerful but it was more 1990, and has had offers from of a psychological thing to make other clubs. "I love Leicester against Australia in the quarter- the selectors think I was bigger and that's where I want to play. and better. In fact I'm not the I want a contract that will en-Leicester are not getting 100 per

> promises to "throw everything at it". "It's a huge opportunity to show the world what we can do. A more fluid game would suit me and that's exactly how we train. It's going to be very physical, very ferocious, very fast and very close."

Bell's scothsk league Premier Division

RA CARLING PREMIERSHI Covertry v Leeds Eventon v Aston Villa fan Cay v Lwerpool . ough v Mon Utd ...

West Ham v Sheff Wed .. endsleigh League

Эртиндээт у Ягесани Crystal Palace - Nerwich ...

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11 G Lewis 10 N Jenkin 9 Paul John 2 Phil John N Eynon M Lloyd RWIN

Mick-off: 3.0 1880 Walts

are no longer an unfashionable Paul John, Horgan's opposite among the élite."

some excellent rugby in the last

running what amounts to a finishing school and the final will be the swan-song for the Llewellyn brothers, Gareth and Glyn, who are joining Harlequins and Wasps. "We have a development programme that ensures that any losses will be limited," Jones said. "If a player has a good offer we won't stand in his way

Football ENDSLEIGH LEAGUE IA Shelfield Utd v Port Vale SECOND DIVISION

Football
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3.0 unless stated
3.5 Lefetze Pression Divisions Aylesbury v Purfeet; Boreham Wood v Worthung Carshalton v
Hayes; Grays v Sution Und; Harrow Booogh v
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Medienhead United v Chesham United; Markow
v Bogsor Regis Town; Odord Cay v Bilennay Town;
Tooting & Mitcham United v Thame United;
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Rouses; Wolningson Town; Welterley v Berton
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Hernchurch; Hestifield United v Windsor & Chor;

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Lencaster Chy v Farsley; Cette Netherheld v Albeton Town; Reddilfe Botough v Great Hanwood.

BEAZER HOMES LERGUE Premier Divisions:
Atterstone v Cambudge Cay; BeldockTown Bunor; Cheimstord v SR Rugby; Chelenham v Salsbury; Dorchester v Stationt; Gresily Rovers v
Crawley Town; Hastings v Gouceaster; HeastonTown v Home; Hastings v Gouceaster; HeastonTown v Home; Hastings v Grouseaster; HeastonTown v Baldon; Town v Reuport AFC v Helecower;
Rushden and Diemonds v Merithry; Worcesser v
Gravesend, Mildiaud Divisions Bedworth United v Bisson Town; Sindgroth Town v Noor Green;
Buckingsen Town v Remedion Borough; Unitlay Town v Paget Rangiers; Hirokley Town v Corby Town; Kings Lynn v Stauthnige; Lesouster
United v Evertam United; Redditch United v Bury
Town; Solbud Borough v Rothwell Town; Sutton Oddheld v Grantham Town; Terracrith v R
C Warrack, Southern Divisions: Canderlord
Town v Hest Town; Enth & Belveder v Troibridge Town; Famiern Town; Terracrith v R
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Sv Newport (6Mt); Hamer Town v Karghter; Falver
Sv Newport (6Mt); Hamer Town v Storgbours;
Peole Town; V Watersbowlie v Ashton' Town;
Weston-super-Mane v Bagifley; Waymouth v Forest Green Rovers; Witney Town v Yitte Town,
LEAGLE OF WALLES, Aburysbowth v Tim Perme;
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REACH MILLS LEAGUE Les Phillips Cup finals Tiveton y Barnstaple (at Creditori). WIRISTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: Beckennem HEREWIND UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Hol-beach y Storioù (2.0). UNRIET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE FIRS DIVI kwood v Horsham YMCA; Peacehover Nibe v Snorehem; Ringmer v Hessocis; v Portfield: Whitehawk v Arunda; Wick

Today's pools check

14 Bury v Cardiff ...

CAY: Whathy Town v Gustomough Town.
HEREWARD Lided Countries Langue President
Publishers Boston v Cogishnes; Bourne v Kempstort: Synesbury v St. Neotis: Holbeach v Stotsick Raunde v Lung Buckley, Cortay v Desbronagh:
Woodon v Alambers Blockstone.
JENNSON EASTERN LEAGUE Premier Divisions.
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Town; Sudbury Town Ros v Soham Town
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NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE Premier
Divisions: Brigg Town v Pichening Town: Denaby

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Rugby Union SWALEC CUP FINAL PRIGNATION SHEELD FINAL: Heiston (12.0, Twickenham)

3.45 PERTEMPS 2,000 GUINEAS STAKES (CLASS A) (Broup 1) £150,000 3YO colts & filles 1m

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troper, 12-1 Deabhil Denrick, Eljou D'Inde, 20-1 others

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RACING: This weekend's first Classics of the season create opportunities for revenge as old allies become adversaries

Cecil in shape to storm back

the family ensign whenever a Group winner returns home. At Newmarket racecourse this afternoon, the trainer, metaphorfingers if Storm Trooper manages to capture the 2.000 Guineas.

Victory per se will not cheer Cecil. His joy will come from seeing one bearded face among the ranks of the vanquished, the features that belong to Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum.

It is now seven months since the most successful trainer- days, and his the most successful trainer-owner partnership in modern present absti- 'Every year you racing was severed. Cecil and the Sheikh are both too opinsults spewed out meessantly. But then, last year, came reports that the owner was displeased by the input of Cecil's wife, Natalie, and, terminally, there was disagreement over the condition of a horse that was being prepared for Ascot's Royal Lodge Stakes.

Sheikh Mohammed sent over a convoy of boxes to collect his 35 magnificently bred horses and as Cecil watched the vehicles leave it must have been like seeing bullion trucks disappearing over the horizon.

The circle is completed this afternoon when the colt that caused the final fissure in the partnership, Mark Of Esteem. lines up as one of the more potent challengers to Storm

Mark Of Esteem has winthe Sheikh's Godolphin team and when he stepped off the be a bit selfish to carry on. It prince, Khalid Abdullah, it

At Warren Place, the lofty sta-bles of Henry Cecil they run up zest of a 10-times champion trainer

> aeroplane ramp in Britain this week his well-being was palpa-ble. But then Cecil does not

look too bad himself. The loss of a principal owner could have sent the trainer into a ruinous spiral, but, at 53. he looks as presentable as he has for many years. The words alcohol and cigarettes are no longer scribbled on the shop-

Cecil did not mind a drop in ing it easy for himself. Several his younger

nence may been have something ionated to melt into a harmo-nious relationship, but both could stand the other as the retwin brother, ambitious and David, who fought a battle I want to stay with the bottle in which, for near the top'

> looked like finishing runner-up. The dreadful fracture at Warren Place and weed has also gone, which must now he must prove he can suchave been quite a sacrifice for ceed without another long-term a man who for many years looked as though he had been born with six digits.

> "I haven't drunk for about two and a half years and I gave up smoking over a year ago." he said this week. "I went from cig-ars to Players to Silk Cut, about ambitious and I want to stay 40 or 50 a day, to nothing.

some work, smoking a cigarette and Jake [his two-year-old son] came crawling in. I'm old enough to be his grandfather owns chunks of the West End, anyway and I thought it might Wafic Said and the Saudi tered in Dubai as a member of enough to be his grandfather

would be rather embarrassing

having your father coming to school in a wheelchair, don't you But Cecil, who has also lost a stone in weight, was not just thinking of others. He wanted to be in the best physical shape

sis of his career. Henry Richard Amherst Cecil certainly does not like mak-

to combat the second large cri-

years ago he split from his first wife Julie, a formidable popular figure in Newmarket, and remarried younger

woman. There were almost gallops. He survived that pleasant symmetry about them.

partner. "People are wondering if I can live without Sheikh Mo-hammed," he said. "I don't want to comment too much on that but every year you have somewhere near the top. I'd like "I was in my study doing to prove that to my remaining owners too."

As his other patrons include Lord Howard de Walden, who

minently be sported rattling a tin outside our racecourses. But Sheikh Mohammed is

the owner everyone remembers and he is a personality that Cecil himself can hardly ignore either. When he rises every morning the trainer cannot fail to notice the edifice next door, a huge, well-scrubbed trading estate number of a building, which is the Maktoums' home in Newmarket. The grilles on the impressive front gate have been filled in to frustrate pry-

Dubai's royal family are in-frequent visitors, but rumours about the place are plentiful. The walls are said to extend 10ft underground and local chat has it that several keys are needed to get in, the last bolt being activated from Dubai itself.

Cecil, it seems, has been concentrating less on these quarters than the remainder of his string this spring. Warren Place has got off to an unusually quick start, and its master has been in unusually good

Work mornings have had a

A posse of dark horses comes over the brim of Warren Hill followed, in great pulp cowboy movie tradition, by one flashing figure on a white steed. This is Cecil on the milky Impresario, a former Grade A showjumper who has been downgraded to the station of "the grey back". Vehicle apart, the trainer is not hard to find, sporting his suede boots with blue tassles flicking in the wind, and a mushroom cap in the style once

As the line thunders past, Cecil shouts out individual names followed, usually, by an ambi-

Photograph: George Selwyn tions target for each. If this is

Cecil: ambition undimmed

variably collects and he is as his own echelon on work mornings. This equine shepherding performance reminds of the bobby on the white horse at the first Wembley Cup Final.

busy supervising the visitors as the beginning of the decline for a 10-times champion trainer, a man who has won 14 Classics within these shores alone, it is a fall well camouflaged. "Every year is a challenge and I'm enjoying it very much," he said. "In fact, I'm enjoying myself more now than I have for years.

Mark Of Esteem poised to exploit the Alhaarth hype

RICHARD EDMONDSON

When it comes to racing, the senses are not equal. For some unfortunate reason (and greed and gullibility are among the likely explanations) people are happier to trust their ears rather than their eyes.

A perfect example has come in recent days following reports that Alhaarth, this afternoon's 2,000 Guineas favourite. has been sweeping up the Lambourn gallops like a summer bush fire. Reaction to this work was such that many who saw the colt lose his unbeaten record in the Craven Stakes will have upended their wastepaper baskets and erected the ironing board to revive their winter ante-post vouchers.

the one piece of evidence we witnessed at Newmarket last has thought he was any good. the most tractable of partners for Willie Carson and looked nile, may have been at his peak on Sunday is a little worrying. as a two-year-old and others have now caught him up, that front of Storm Trooper at Ashis best days are already in the cot last season and the latter's photograph album.

NEWMARKET

However, anecdotal testimony from the trial grounds has forced Alhaarth back into shortpriced favouritism. To help him. the colt has a pacemaker in Masehaab, which appears further admission he is not the great horse once predicted. The pantheon of racing's wonders does not have an annex for their outriders. Alhaarth, without doubt, is dire value.

More worthy of consideration is his Craven Stakes conqueror. Beauchamp King, who is being

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Mark Of Esteem (Newmarket 3.45) NB: Blue Iris (Newmarket 4.20)

Alhaarth, once again, seems level. It is an incongruity of this to be a flying machine, despite grey that while he has been winning his last five races nobody month. On that day, Dick Even his trainer, John Dunlop. Hern's colt did not seem to be considered him to be almost a stone below the highest level last year. Beauchamp King seems quite pedestrian when passed by likely to go close, though the Beauchamp King. Since then eclipse of the Craven third. Carson has voiced the belief that Polaris Flight, in the Premio Alhaarth, the champion juve- Parioli (Italian 2,000 Guineas)

> Beauchamp King was just in trainer. Henry Cecil, entertains trucks pulled up. At the time he cut.

thoughts of revenge. "Last year he was very weak and at Ascot the ground was very testing and he couldn't go on it at all. he said this week. "On faster ground and with normal improvement we might be able to give him [Beauchamp King] a

Storm Trooper, it must be said, became a consideration for the Classic almost as an afterthought. Before he won at the Craven meeting he was virtually an unknown among the betting

Barry Hills's Royal Applause is a threat if he stays, but that if is the size of the letters that depict Hollywood in the Californian hills. Danehill Dancer also has his supporters, but messy following the return of sound. She has done her work. worthy as the winner of the Bosra Sham's foot problems. winners) appears to be, it will cream of the Classic generation. until shortly before the race. While visitors to the Rowley Mile will be cupping Bovril in their hands today, Danehill Dancer's owner, Michael Tabor, will be sipping mint juleps as he string at Louisville in the Ken-

best Warren Place had to offer. This colt is just a neck behind

worn by the Rubettes.

Alhaarth on last year's form and has subsequently spent a win-ter under a parasol in the Gulf. Team Godolphin again proved yesterday that a long flight from Duhai had not upset their constitution when Mick's Love won the Newmarket Stakes.

It is no secret that Mick's Love and Mark Of Esteem were not considered to be in the same Emirate by Godolphin. The nearest they got to each other was in the dictionary and with his team once again bubbling it seems senseless to desert their captain.

Tomorrow's 1,000 Guineas is leg in a plaster cast, but whether Her absence would serious-

ly devalue the event but it will hardly have winning connections wailing in anguish. They may again be the band that has of up to 70 per cent if she does watches other members of his just unpacked as Bint Shadayid. the filly who looks as though she tucky Derby. has swallowed a wardrobe full Of the funcied horses we are of coathangers, is the form left with MARK OF ESTEEM choice for Godolphin on her (nap 3.45) was with Cecil last second to Bosra Sham in last year until Sheikh Mohammed's September's Fillies Mile at As-

Sham pain on ice as favourite falters

GREG WOOD

Bosra Sham, favourite for the 1,000 Guineas since before Christmas and long odds-on for the past two weeks, is only an even-money chance just to reach the starting stalls after aggravating a minor foot injury in her final pre-Classic gallop on Thursday. Henry Cecil, her trainer, may wait until "10 minutes before they go to post" before committing his filly to tomorrow's contest.

"She worked brilliantly," Cecil said yesterday, "she really has come on a lot. But earlier on this morning she was actually lame. We re-did her foot, and by lunchtime she was sound, so it is just a question of keeping her

driven out to almost each-way Greenham Stakes (a poor Some would argue the filly to take the soreness out and we provider of subsequent Guineas could win the Classic with one could even use laser, but I will be guided by professional peobe a disappointment if he is the she runs at all will not be known ple. We've still got two days." Punters should be warned that bets struck on runners oth-

er than Bosra Sham after yesterday's declaration deadline will be subject to a Rule 4 cut not run. An alternative is Ladbrokes' list without Bosra Sham, which offers: 7-4 Bint Salsabil, 5-2 Bint Shadayid, 7-1 Dance Sequence, Honest Guest and My Branch, 14-1 Matiya, 20-1 Maid For The Hills & My Melody Parkes, 25-1 bar.

changes in the 1,000 Guineas yesterday. Frankie Dettori will ride Bint Shadayid for Godolphin, with David Harrison taking over on Maid For The Hills and Gary Carter aboard Pa-

The fillies' Guineas will be the feature race on the first Sunday cards of 1996 (Salisbury also races tomorrow). The highstreet bookmakers, who moaned loudly about lack of interest from punters last year, will begin the new Sunday season in a more positive mood, with the Big Three firms opening almost all of their outlets, and most independent shops also ready to chase business. Whether a trip to the betting shop on Sunday of the British weekend - not "She will be given ice packs least on the day when the Premiership reaches its climax - re-

Dettori got the Godolphin organisation's new campaign off to an ideal start in the Newmarket Stakes yesterday, and his loyal followers in the nation's shops were rewarded with 3-1 about Mick's Love, who may now enter the Derby reckoning. He is 16-1 with Hills for the Epsom Classic, though the Prix de Jockey-Club (French Derby) is an alternative.

Dettori also rode Moonshell, the 1995 Oaks winner, but she was tailed off in the Jockey Club Stakes and has been retired.

PORM GUIDE There should be a different display from ALMANUTH lever than when beaten by Beacochange Ring in the Craven and he is expected to seeing that neck defeat - to provide another victory for this for Dick Hern and Willie Carson They isemed up with Nachwan 11989), while the Magn first win it will be Ringader Gerard (1971). Almanth had a tremendous first easen, Relating unbeaten alter five races, including the Laurent Paprier Changage Solves at Doncaster and the Deleghant here. The Unflavors coth don't look quite right in his book in the Carson. He pulled hard sulf in a story run race and was pust beaten for finishing speed. But with postmoler Masselmab to ensure there's no hanging about, the so lection will be sean in a truth bester light. Brigader Gerard and Nashwan both won the vidious a preliminary outing, so Hern must have tell that Almanth would come on for a run. And the out-worked brigantly in a recent gallop. Beauchiamp lung also nad a grown time as a two-per-oid, completing a four-time when a length and a quarter too Rood for Bream Top in the Recking Post Trophy at Doncaster in October and he correct best Steren Theoper is length and a quarter at Alexa. Sterm Theoper came home a most impressive winner of the Felden Stellay with Bolkonski (1975) and Wollow (1976) Danefield Donce justified favourisms in the Creenham on he return, but Almanth detocked him most de claimly by the and a half lengths in the Develvard The ex-Cect trained Mark of Estiment and her control to the control of the recent and her control of the recent part of the Carson ham in the Greenham on he return, but Almanth detocked him most de claimly by the and a last lengths in the Develvard The ex-Cect trained Mark of Estiment and the control of the recent part of the control of the control of the recent part of the control of the recent part of the recent part of the control of the control of the control of the control of the recent part of th 2.000 GUINEAS - 10-YEAR-TALE 1508 87 88 69 90 91 92 93 54 95 Parks of the reposition: 1 1 1 1 2 11 9 1 13 7 Wasser's place in building: 1 0 1 1 0 2 3 1 0 2 158 91 46 31 91 132 61 56 161 92 Proff for June 10, 21 Statute: Parameters + 50,50. Sectoral Parameters + 50,50. Sectoral Parameters Parameters + 50,50. Sectoral Par

PERTEMPS 1,000 GUINEAS STAKES (Class A) C4 Group 1 £130,000 added 3Y0 filles 1m 1101-2 BINT SILEMBIL (19) (Flamese Al Maktourn J Durstop 9 0 112- BINT SHADAYID (Gotolphin Sessel bin Surotr 9 0 11-3 MATTAR FARCAL 90 9 00-34 MASS UNIVERSAL (15) C Britain 90 10 321123 MY WARNER (WALE SAID) 8 MS 90 11 632244 MY WARDON PROBES (15) 18 my 90 12 512 PAPERING I, Curran 90 13 506 POSTURIESE LIL D Nations 90 13 decision R Hale 4 BETTING: 2-5 Seers Sharn, S-1 Hist Sahashi, 7-1 Bint Sahashi, 7-1

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2.00: MUTAZZ, who stayed on strongly to beat Kippanour three lengths with the third II lengths adrift on similar going to this at Ludlow last time, can complete a hat-trick. Alzoom, also on a threetimer following his six lengths tri-umph over Snowy Petrel at Uttoxeter, rates the main danger.

2.34: SOHRAB, who returned to form when running Outset to 21/2 lengths in a competitive handicap hurdle at the Aintree Grand National meeting, looks the best op-tion. Go-Informal, pulled up on soft ground at Punchestown last time, is an obvious danger on his best form, a remark which also applies to Treasure Again.

3.00: FLYING INSTRUCTOR, who came from a long way back to heat Dreams End (61b better off today) in good style at Ascot a month ago, is improving and can confirm the ings. Fourth in Line may preer softer ground.

NEWMARKET 3.05: BARDY DANCER, 11/4 lengths third to Hazard A Guess and Special Dawn (1lb worse off) in Kempton's Rosebery Handicap on Easter Monday, will prefer this faster ground.

3.45: BEAUCHAMP KING, who beat Albaarth a nock in the Craven Stakes over course and distance looks sure to give a good account of himself. Alhaarth, who beat re-cent Greenham Stakes winner Danebill Dancer comfortably in the Dewhurst Stakes here last autumn may be fitter this time though, and is a big danger. Storm Trooper, who showed speed and clocked a smart

HYPERION'S

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To Principal Control of the Control

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the best each-way ber. 4.20: EASY OPTION, who put up some smart performances last year, would be suited by rain. Hever Golf Rose rates the main threat.

time when winning the nine-furlong Feilden Stakes at Newmarket, looks

4.50: On last ground JAYANNPEE 4.50 On last ground JAIATOVIES has a fine chance. He is 5to lower in the handlesp than when a close third in the Stewards Cup at Goodwood last year. Easy Sandown winner Mister Jokon is the danger.

HE MANAGEMENT 6.00 Saekia's Hero 6.30 Quatrapol 7.00 Choisty 7.50 Bonzer 8.00 Admission 8.30 Dorlin Castle





4.20 Easy Option 2.00 Dushyantor 4.50 Jayannpee 2.35 Hawait 3,05 Hardy Dancer (nb) 5.20 Jural 3.45 BEAUCHAMP KING (nap) GOING: Good to Firm, STALLS: - 3, 15 & 4, 20 stands safe; remanuser - tar side DRAW ADVANTAGE; None MANY TANA AND AND A NOTE: NOTE: BEING THE RIGHT CONTROL OF THE REPORT OF THE RESIDENCE OF T LEADING TRAINERS WITH RI NNERS: H Coeff - 53 winners from 245 runners at a runn of 24. Pogitung a return to a \$1 keed stake of \$13.46, 4 Gosdina - 53 winners, 345 runners, 1419a, \$7290, R Hamson - 14 winners, 517 runners, 870%, 4200,77 B Hillis - 32 winners, 150 runners, 150 ru HIGH SHOUTS.

ELEADING JOCKEYS: Pat Eddery - [18] womers, 460 rdes, 22.4%, +51 76, L Dettorl

ELEADING JOCKEYS: Pat Eddery - [18] womers, 460 rdes, 22.4%, +51 76, L Dettorl

LOST, W Carson - 49 womers, 450 rdes, 10.7% a60.62; M Roberts - 45 winners, 565
rdes, 11.7%, 5117.22; M HIBS - 33 winners, 310 rdes, 10.7%, 540.75.

BLINKERS PIEST TORE None

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None

LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Montagerat (4.50) has been sent 322 miles from LG Con
LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Montagerat (4.50) has been sent 322 miles from LG Con
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LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Montagerat (4.50) has been sent 325 miles from LG Con
LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS RUNN rell's Pulford stable in Deson 2.00 MAYER PARRY STAKES (CLASS C) £8,000 added 3YO

HYPERION

2.35 CITROEN FLEET MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) C4

FORM GUIDE Richard Hannon has won so juverile rose this season and sent out 1:15°, notice to land the corresponding event 12 months ago. The Marbonologin handler fills time saddles Tautan Rookle a 35,000gms yearing and half-brother to three winners. Sam, Hills' Hawait, a grey Green Desert cott, has been going well on the gallops and the said win the wo-year old race at Sandown eight days ago with Saddins. However ABOU ZOUZ, 3 reported to be able to go a bit and is out of a half-satier to Prince Sabo and Milyant, he tost 350,000gms as a yearing and was later resold for 110,000 dollars.

Selection: 4504 2002

3.05 TORCH MOTOR POLICIES AT LLOYDS RATED HANDICAP CLASS B) £15,000 added 1m 2f

FORM GUIDE.

The booking of Mick Kinane for WILCUMA certainly catches the eye. Peter Makin's, five-year-old, probably in need of the race when ninth of 20 to Royal Philosopher in the Newbory Spring Cup on as return, chaked up a text-inch the season before last, winning at Leocasia, kerniting and Scholam, while he went in at Haydock last term. Another good effort was his short need deleast by Smart Generation at Newbury last October - Hardy bisnoer and Amrak Ajeeb a long way safinf, Hardy Cancer landed his first live races last term and left that Newbury racking a long way behind when third behind Hazard A Guess and Special Down in the Rossbery at Kempiton four weeks ago, beaten threequarters of a length and a half a length. However, Second Down - who won their race a year ago - was making for the first time since October than and should confirmithe form on marginally worse terms. Another and cat since the benefit of an outring is Beyond Dowht.

Selection: WILCUMA

4.20 DUBAI RACING CLUB PALACE HOUSE STAKES (C.4.) (CLASS A) (Group 3) £32,000 added 5f - 12 declared -BETTING: 7-2 Hener Golf Rose, 4-1 Westcourt Magic, 5-1 Easy Option, Blue Irlu, 8-1 Double Quick,

10-1 Straggier, 12-1 others 1966: sand Genet, 3-8-5 J Caroll 4-1-9 Berry, 14 ran FORM CLUDE

WESTGARE MAGIC went from strength as a puventle and graduated from sellers to listed company. Its five victories included the Harry Rosepery at Ayr's Western meeting and he wound up with a second on the Group Three Comwalts Stakes at Assot. Although looking in need of the outling, Mick Easterby's numer botted in by more than three lengths at Haydock four weeks ago in a Listed race with by Mind Cames before he went on to land this a year ago. Hewer Golf Rose scared eight times in 1995, including the King George Stakes at Goodwood and the Pitz der Plabbay they word in half lengths at Long-hamp in October. She had a gatop after racing at Newbury two weeks ago and, although though they to improve for this, should go close. Evenlageerformance to length numer-up in they care. Easy Option and Cool Jazz Insched third, fourth and severith of 1,2 in the Longshamp has

4.50 LADBROKES HANDICAP (CLASS C) £30,000 added 6f 64000-0 JAYANNPEE (15) (D) (J Panesa) | Baking 5 9 11 . 20000-0 LORD OLIMER (15) (0) (Mas V R Janes) T D Beron 6 9 6 | 25 002-00- SYNTAY (CAS) (DOZ (D) (NEW) SERVEN M LStep 7 8 8 R STORE 1.5 | 18 654-55 M NONTSERRAT (J.B) (NEW 1 New 1 reads) (L. Congré 4 8 5 M Carron 5 V 20 500500 THATCHERELA (J.BS) (D) U H Watches) D Casppel 5 8 3 B Thomson 18 21, 2022-01 STUFFED (J.4) (D) (East) Mooring Breakfast Syndicate) M W Estatry 4 7 1.3 U Quina 4 2 0650-6 (J. TAUSANM (J.2), Stahl H Homes 0 R Hermon 3 7 1.0 B Bindheil 2 2 40050-5 GOME SAVMEE (B) (D) (The Squire Table) W Musson 8 7 1.0 F Norton 3 2 4 000-000 RGCH GLOW (B) (M J Baleson) N Bycort 5 7 1.0 Norton 3 N Variety (3) 1 - 24 declared - 25 declared - 2

— 24 declared —
Africana weight: 7st 10th. La Tensari 7st 90, Gove Swage 7st 90, Afch Glow 7st 90,
BETTREC 6-1 Mister Joisse, 8-1 So Hever Golf, 9-1 French Grit, 12-1 Castleres Lad, Jayannpee, Tusto
evella, 14-1 Monteerret, Bock Symphony, Sir Josy, Tiller, 15-1 Seigneorist, Stoffed, 20-1 others
1995: Sessento 5 9 3 Erma O'Gorman 20-1 (W O'Gorman) 21 ran

GO HEVER GOLF, half-brother to Hever Golf Rose, has a favoured high draw and, with Part Eddery booked, can lead home this cayality charge even if he hasn't raced since August. He won two of his hist tiwee starts in 1995, at Wolverhampton and it Chester. Selgmental, well drawn when dead-heaping with subsequent scorer Latching in a field of 25 at Kempton four weeks ago, had Master Jolson, Moditiversal and Sir Joey (third in this last year) in fourth, fifth and 11th. Mister Jolson, who finished strongly from a poor draw at Kempton, stomed home by a couple of lengths from Sir Joey (6th better) at Sandown text week - Gone Sawage and Rock Symphony fifth and soth of 17. On 2th better terms, Mister Jolson can turn around Kempton form with Seigneums, and can confirm Sandown ruming. Their, Cestienea Lad and Preside Grit, lourth, fifth and soth of 3 log Reid behind Super Berz at Ripon, should again be prominent - together with Sasseedo (winner of this in 1995) and Pernyston View. GO HEVER GOLF, half-brother to Hever Golf Rose, has a favoured high draw and, with Par

5.20 CHIPPENHAM PARK STAKES (CLASS C) £8,000 added

Store 31/7/87 are subject to auditional fee of £1230. Prices would family 6/5/96. The said. "When I realised that tors breached the 1976 Euro-have to amend legislation." birth certificates and passborts." | missioning Excr. womand legislation.

THE INDEPENDENT • SATURDAY 4 MAY 1996 HAYDOCK 2.00 Mutazz 3.30 Tullymerry Toff 2-30 Sohrab 4.05 Tonys Gift 3.00 Flying Instructor 4.35 Dream Ride El Left-hand course with imposing drop fences and nun-in of two forlongs. If Recognize is near junction of A580 and M6. Newton station (m. ADMINSSION: County Stand S 15; Tangesalls SB; Newton Stand, 14 (OAPs half-price in Tattersalls and Newton Stand). CAR PARK: Free. SIS ELADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: M Pipe - 27 winners from 134 runners at a tailo of 20.1% giving a return to a \$1 level stake of -546.13; J Firagerald - 16 winners, 67 runners, 26.2%, +\$16.54; N Twiston-Davice - 14 winners, 56 runners, 25.3%, +\$8,48; Mrs M Reveley - 11 winners, 44 runners, 25.3%, -\$0.82. ELADING JOCKESTS: B Dunwoody - 20 winners, 69 rites, 25%, -\$7.03; M Dwyer - 20 winners, 122 rides, 16.4%, -\$49.18; A Maguire - 12 winners, 58 rides, 20.7%, -\$13.63; G Bradley - 10 winners, 56 rides, 25.6%, -\$2.2.08 ELIMERES FIRST ITURE: Solution (2.00). Attacket (visored) (3.30). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN BAYS: Tailymenry Teff (3.30) won at Market Rasen loss Sourday. Tough Gift (4.05) won at Phumpton on Wednesday. LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS: Chief Minister (3.00) sent 247 miles from 7 Dyer's invergowric stable in Tayside. 2.00 CROWTHER HOMES HELL NOOK HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS B) £12,500 added 4YO 2m — 6 deciared — Minimum weight: 10st, Forestel St. 11ib. BETTRVC: 21-4 Chicoderi, 3-1 Sovereigns Perede, 7-2 Ministry, 6-1 Shining Edge, 10-1 Altroome, 12-4 Forestel, 14-1 others 1995: Zaston 4 10 6 W Marston 12-1 (D Nicholson) 10 ran SHARP COMMAND (16) R Amstong 3 8 5... SHART PLAY (USA) (15) Mrs J Ceol 3 8 5... VELMEZ (17) R Guest 3 8 5... VELWEZ (LT) R Guess 3 8 5. L. Chemock ; GLOGEN SOURD 69 T Estady 3 8 0. L. Williams 3 SHIELEY VENTURE S Vectors 3 8 0. L. T Williams 2 13 declared - L. Taha 2 13 declared - Secondinant, Acc. 4 Smart New 42 4 Mars Alleren, 5-1 Secondinant, Acc. 4 Smart New 42 4 Mars Alleren, 5-1 Secondinant, Acc. Fancy, 10-1 Smart Play, 12-1 Valmez, 16-1 others 3.55 THERSK HUNT CUP (HANCICAP) (CLASS C) £16,000 added 1m

| FORM GUIDE |
|--|
| A was here by MUTAZZ will help to sectio Dick hear/sneries as Atheers, goes for classic gory at 3.45, and |
| the COR, as up to the test other smaller-goods was at Windowskin and Lucious. His weight is about right for |
| what his achieved and a worm up not on the Fire 12 days ago will have but an edge on him. Algorithm |
| is a shriker less-ground type as Mutazz effor wins at Luciton and Wincompon. He started life with Henry Casal |
| and could be anything after a very easy wan from Snowy Petrel fast trad. Sovereigna Paradic tools a sno |
| off 10st 11th other besting subsequent Trumph Hundle separat Pacity's Return on this course. He was get- |
| ting 12th arc." — and displace at Kempton attenuents, but this could be his day again now he natures treat, |
| Chicodani has emproved for blankers with two smooth were and may not have truly stayed when concepting |
| lamps of weight to Recorders or Chellenham (2m46) lest some, A lost-facts existate wouldn't have happen |
| and a return to two miles up on his favour. Solatium made the frame on the Victor Luddown here in Febru- |
| dry, just as Zadoon did prity to septeng this lest year. The faster ground helper Zadoon, as it should So- |
| laturals, a former groupe of John Coscien and tree! in blinkers for the first time. Staking Edito is exposed and |
| may not be up to the pask of the 11th higher esting after the Wetherby wir, while former soller wanner (figh- |
| heads and Forestal (held by Chenderi) also face a stem test. Selection: MUTAZZ |
| |
| |
| 2.30 CROWTHER HOMES LONG DISTANCE HURDLE BBC1 |
| (CLASS B) £12,500 added 2m 7f 110yds |
| 1 3-5112P GO DEFORMAL (10) (R G Marston) J Jefferson 5 11 0 |
| 2 1P120P GOLDEN NUMBER MAR SWEET CHARLES A BANKS Q 11 D. A BANKS |

| - | 77 77 | |
|----|------------|---|
| 3 | 244202 | JUTHE (CAM) (ST) (SF) (Count Pig & Moding See Ltd) D Nicholaum 5 11 0 R Designation |
| 4 | 215202 | SONEMA (SIS) (Mis Journe Richards) M Pipe 8 11 0C Months |
| 5 | 0P5311 | SURFER (FR) (17) (Smon Sansbury) Capt T Forser 8 11.0S Wysen |
| 6 | 2P-5120 | TREASURE AGAIN (ST) (BF) (Other Hugo Goyman) Mas Memia Jones 7 11 0 |
| | | - 8 declared - |
| Æ | 1794E- 9-4 | Sun Surfer, 3-1 Solumia, 7-2 Justille, 4-1 Go-Informal, 7-1 Treasure Again, 25-1 Gold |
| 2 | Neggiot 1 | |
| 19 | S: Gornel | 6 10 13 C Lieuralyn 11-2 (N T-Davies) 6 ran |

FORM CLEDE Total as the proper which sold supplies the second of calesting. Being in form in handways seconds, Sun Sunfer should stay the Singer title and first title its Ciristimas shoulding only 11st. He hustaped a stone makes when pering 20th to Jammy's Cross, do Latinosial as the form house on his Createnham second to Limbarda. He has won on this tessor ground, but a sets only ten days ago when he was pulled up at resting considers at Punchestown. Treastown Again failed to now up to his Createnham form (second to Treasgott on the tesser ground at Ambier. This ground will be arriber and, should beater a long way at Ambier, he does meet Justible (second to Top Spin) on 11th better reams and his heat, Justible at Astor) to James when concerting the Prevet today. Solvents as held by Treasure Again on Createnham form, though this is different ground and he's since finished a five second to Outset at Airsteel under a ting weight.

Selection: SUN SURFER

HEREFORD

| | Б | 3.00 | CROWTHER HOMES SWINTON HANDICAP HUR- DLE (CLASS A) (Grade 3) £35,000 added 2m | RRC1 |
|---|-----|-------------|--|-------------------|
| , | | | DLE (CLASS A) (Grade 3) £35,000 added 2m | DUUL |
| | 1 | 1F-2303 | LAND AFRE CLAS COS (7 : Foods P Meliner S 12 0 | Bed Sweet |
| : | 2 | 10-F5P0 | OH SO RESIGN (25) (DI) (The On So Resty Syndicate) D Esworth 9 11 13 | A Pench |
| ' | 3 | 1-32205 | CHIEF MERISTER (LA) (CD) (6 Shell T Dier 7 11 10 | & Dominando |
| • | 4 | 003201 | STOREPIX (35) (D) (The Yords Group Ltd) Mess H Rings 5 11 8 | Nr. I Collete CO |
| • | 5 | 405321 | POLISTH SK LENE (1.1) (D) (Mrs & Jenkinson) J Edwards & 10 10 | M Davie |
| | 6 | 364356 | HON WATERGE (14) (D) (Alan Marini M Crapmen 5 10 10. | W Wantington |
| Į | 7 | 142440 | SPEEDWIELL PROMCE (37) (D) (Bur Fintures Partnership) N 7-Dames 6 10 1 | n Climake |
| | 8 | 221015 | TRAGIC HERO (5) (C) (Unget Hawks Purtnersho) M Pipe 4 10 9 | D Bridenator B |
| | 9 | 10P040 | THORNOOM SATE (21) (CD) (T H Bennett) T Easterly 7 10 9 | LWv |
| | 10 | 341136 | STAR RAGE (\$1) (D) (RF) U David Abell J L Hams 6 10 7 | G Brade |
| | 11 | 04-0112 | CHARMENS GER. (USA) [37] [D) (C Cover) () Strenucct 5 10 7 | J.A. Me Carrier |
| • | 12 | 001-001 | PALACEBATE FUNG (81) (CD) (Ches N Historie) A Historie 7 10 7 | R Handing |
| : | 13 | P02023 | DREAMS END (25) (CD) (BF) (T G Proc) P Bowen B 10 7 | P Revised |
| - | 14 | 3-01611 | PLYING MISTRUCTOR (20) (D) (Lady Lyel) P Wester 6 10 4 | P Bellator |
| | 15 | 035311 | STINEZ (14) (D) (G Wester) Mrs N Marauley 5 10 4 | PHila |
| | 15 | 41-0423 | CASTLE SECRET (17) Oks Ruth Burnes D Burnes 10 10 0 | D 1 fember |
| | | | KANTAK (SR) (C2); IC J Muspiny) J Carr 5 10 0 | |
| l | 18 | 5-12196 | MONECASSIAN (14) (D) Ambrose Tumbul) A Janes 6 10 0 | D Berne |
| | 19 | 315084 | DOWN THE HILL (25) (D) U Howard Joseph J Howard Johnson 7 10 0 | P Curbon |
| | _ | | - 19 declared - | |
| | 48 | ditum supp | tt 10st. True handsop weights: Keitni 9s; 12ib, Monicosmon 9s; 10ib, Dow | n The Feef 9st 71 |
| | ΒĖ | TEN: 51 | Flying Instructor, 7-1 Charming Gitt, Tragic Hero, 9-1 Solvez, Stampin | 12-1 Chief Min |
| | bit | er, Star Ro | So. 14-1 Fourth in Line. Thornton Date. 16-1 Maniescopes. 20-1 other | 18 |

1995: Chel Minster 6 11 6 Peser Hooks 16-1 (T Dyer) 13 ran FORM GUIDÉ SPEEDWIELL PRINCE, from the stable that won a but handcap chase with the noute Archic Rick

SPEEDWELL PERMICE, from the stable that won a but handcap close with the moute Author Austrana at Aistree, is ny facility for the competible effect, in good form on the based ground earlier in the session, Speedwell Proces on up to he kempton form with Kimanchy when fourth to inselective at the Chaitmanian Festival after holding, a prominent place to the home turn. He should be able to stack with the pace set by these handsupports, and a jumping error nated his chance at author less times. Tragic Here with the Anthree case, stating Chairmaing Eleif for a flur length success. Tagic Hero will do well for a youngser to win the and his stiller made the visit of Purchasomet, Chairmang Get is Sib better of hear, but from not save she's up to the tash against these expenseded handscappers. Paying Instructor is upproving and his Ascot win has been bocosted by Selvests has no subsequent was. Meeting Sames on Sib better sams toolay. Paying Instructor has to the on the short-lest carrying just 10st 4th. Called Minister, outstand on his last box time, rate been tound that sproving any with this race lest year on his becound that spround, his staying gibility enables him to come off a storing pace, while Patanagute Ringi, who beath him at Reiso and now allowed, would wort plantly of apin. Storing him his proving a selective here as at Address, and Thomston case, would worth plantly of apin. Storing him to the Austree good, is Sib better and some to are a race or or nor of his source courses. She Ragin is 10th higher for his County Hundle win, while Roych in Line has sever win on ground as fast as the second.

| _ | |
|---|--|
| 1 | 3.30 CROWTHER HOMES NEW FLORIDA HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS B) £7,000 added 2m 4f Penalty Value £4,993 |
| m | 1 11349 2 RUSTY REEL (24) (5 M Penyr Mass H Angle 6 11 10 R Desiratory |
| che: | 2 60-0000 ATTADALE (LET (DT) (The Law Prose (Thoroughprocs) Ltd L Lungs 8 11 10 |
| adv . | 3 033532 WHITE WILLOW (24) (H. North) May to Revely 7 11.8 |
| (0) | - OD/2-PP5 TARGUSANT (S1) (C) (D) (G A Famoun) R throughpuse 9 11 2 |
| | 5 32313F UNICLE NEEDIN (23) (0) (Richard Seed) J CNR-1 6 11 C |
| iyer Oto | 6 1P01-61 GROUSEMAN (26) (Accepte) Mass H Knoth 10 10 8 |
| e de la companya de La companya de la companya de l | 7 31/4-014 ERCKURE (17) (0) The Same Partnership) N Gasteler 6 10 4 |
| | B 3-5151 TULLYMARKY TOFF (7) (0) (1) H Wison & Mr. J.H Riles) J M Jederson 5-20-4 |
| r B | G 211732 MANDY ETF CD C Room lets Mentin lones 5 10 ft |
| lyer - | 10 400620 PETILIEAN (7) Pays Thomas Williams D Bushel 5 10 0 |
| Sey . | = 10 declared - |
| riny . | Markingon welging 10st. True hondstage welgins: Markotine 9st 12th, Politican Stat 6th. |
| | BETTARE 5-2 Brownerman, 9-2 White Willow, 8-1 Rusty Rose, Unclo Keepy, 7-1 Attachis, Tollyanusty |
| | Toff. 10.1 Managate. 16-1 others. |
| 107 | 1995; Northy Ct. 7 10 10 R Destroody 13-B (Miss H Nagle) 4 781 |
| ide . | |
| أعت | 4.05 CROWTHER HOMES EDGE GREEN NOVICE CLAIMING HUR- DLE (CLASS F) £3,000 added 2m 4f Penalty Value £2,448 |
| (3) | 4.UD IN E (c) ASS E) E3 000 added 2m 4f Penalty Value £2,448 |
| FEE | DEC (GEORGE) Department of the Control of the Contr |
| | 1 42-3152 RELEGIO (II) (IR) (Dutine Robertson) P Montesto 7 11 A |
| , | |
| . . | |
| | |
| | |
| | E EISTEL TOWNS CELL CO. (III.) HINE CLOS PRODUM MANUAL TO 1 TOWNS TO THE CO. |
| | |
| | METTERS: 5-4 Tonys GR. 2-1 Rallegio, 8-1 Stones, Rivers End, Mrs. Robinson, 12-1 Toloma |
| an at | 1995: Maestoso 6 11 9 G McCourt 10-1 (R F Johnson Houghoon) 5 mm |
| 0860 | 4.35 CROWTHER HOMES DOCK LANE NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £4,000 added 2m Penalty Value £3,022 |
| Festi | 4 25 CROW HER HOMES DOCK DATE TO CO. CO. |
| trese | D) £4,000 added 2m Penaity value 23,022 |
| QC2, | |
| s and | A GORDON POPOLI DING POR PORTO TO MICHIGAN E E L'ESTAN LI MICTORIE D'11 I I MANGRANA |
| අතු ස | |
| been. | A COARGO COMPANIBLES AND ALLEGAN COMPANIA SHOOK II U |
| 195 | S DECOME SHAFTESTIC (\$42) (P.A. McMahon) Paul McMahon 5.11.0 |
| been | E OF THE ANDRONNEL INTO MICHAEL M. Parkert J. M. Jefferson 5 10 9 |
| abe- | To the property appropriated him (fishers (other Stuff)) Educates 5 10 9 |
| # 4B | n was and if the self field it is been at 100 grown at 10 |
| nica. | 9 5 SALVELD KING (26) U G Whosh M Barnes 4 10 9 D Bridgentor |
| | |

| | _ _ |
|--|---|
| THIRSK | 8 SECONDINENT I, Curren 385O lipbino 13 |
| THE PARTY OF THE P | 9 80 SHARP COMMAND (16) R ARTSTONE 3 8 5 |
| THE STATE OF THE S | 10 5 SHANET PLAY (USA) (US) Mes J Cool 385R Conter 9 |
| HYPERION | 11 4 VELMEZ (17) R Guest 3 8 5 |
| 2.20 Braveheart 2.50 Montrestar 3.20 Kass Al- | 12 0- GLOORAN SOUND (8) T Ensisting 3 8 0 |
| hawa 3.55 Primo Lara 4.25 Mutadarra 4.55 Bar- | 13 SHEPLEY VENTURE 5 Woods 3 8 0 Table 2 |
| THE CALLS FIRM LEE 4.20 MICEGAINS 4.55 Bar- | - 13 declared - |
| rel Of Hope | BETTRIC: 9-4 Mental Pressure, 4-1 Kass Allands, 5-1 Secondarant, Acc- |
| GOENG: Good. | Sic Fancy, 10-1 Smart Play, 12-1 Volumez, 16-1 others |
| STALLS: Round course - inside; straight course - stands side. | |
| DEAW ADVANTAGE: High for 5f & 6f; low for 7f & 7m. | |
| Left-hand course, level box quite sharp. | 3.55 THERSK HUNT CUP (HANDICAP) (CLASS |
| Course is W of town on AG1. Thirds station 1m. ADMISSIONS | C) £16,000 added 1m |
| Clark 512; Tark-realis 58 (OAPs 54); Family Enclosure 53 (OAPs | 1 334-311 PREMO LARA (15) (C) P Herits 4913 G Head 5 |
| 21.50). Accompanied under-16s free. CAR PARK: Family Enclosure | 2 15000-4 CHICKRINGKA (26) B Pelling 5 9 12 |
| 59 per car including four adults plus all children; remainder free. | 2 15000-4 CHICKANICKA (26) B Palling 5 9 12 |
| SIS RACING | 4 1234-00 FAME AGAIN (32) (5) Mrs J Remotion 4 9 9 |
| CHANGE | 5 0050-50 NEW CENTURY (USA) (11) D Natrolls 4 9 8 |
| DI INTERPRESENTATION AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY | W J O'Connor 12 |
| BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None. | 8 16006-3 TERTIMA (8) (D) M Ware 496S D Williams 15 |
| WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Rambo Waltzer (3.55) | 7 50566-6 RORY (11) (CD) Mas J Card 5 9 5 |
| wun at Ripon on Saturday; Barrel Of Hope (4.55) won at Ponte- fract on Mondov. | 8 5806-24 1,0000HEFORNAHABOW (22) (C) Bob Jones 8 9 4 A Daly (S) 7 |
| LONG-DISTANCE BUNNERS: None. | 9 1130-00 UP IN FLAMES (7) (D) M Hammond 5.9 4 Q Duffield 10 |
| LOWG-DISTANCE EUNINEED; NORE. | 10 00-0050 CASTEL ROSSELO (IZ) (D) R Hands 5 9 1 A Mackey 11 |
| | 11 12(0:00 SCARABEN (11) (D) S Kentinuell 890Dean McKennen 13 |
| 2 20 MARKET PLACE MEDIAN AUCTION MAID | 12 024600- SANDHOOR CHAMERAY (225) Essectiv 5.8 13 M Birch 18 |
| | 13 162111 RAMEO WALTZER (7) (CD) D Nichols 4 8 13 Alex Greenes 2 |
| EN STAKES (CLASS F) £4,500 2YO 5F | 14 00-4442 SOOTY TERN (5) (CD) J Badley 98 12 |
| 1 50 BOLERO BOY (16) M W Easterby 9 0 Date Gibsen 12 | 15 643114 HORR PREMIUM (26) (01) R Februy 8 8 12 |
| 2 BRAVENEART (7) M Channon 9 0 | 16 COCO-CO SPANISH VERDICT (S) (CD) Denje Smrth 988 |
| 3 0 EAGER TO PLEASE (15)) Berry 9 0 G Carter & | C Teagre (5) 4 |
| 4 4 GRATE TEMES (A) E Weymes 9 0 & Heat 5 | 17 624630 NARBHSNA (35) (CD) M. Chapman 6 8 7 P. McCabe (3) 3 |
| 5 0 MELL END BOY (8) M W Easterby 9 0 | 18 (0-024) WENTERDOE LAD (3) (0) P Ears 6 8 5 S Sealers 14 B |
| 5 SMOKEY FROM CAPLAN O'Neil 9 0 @ Dalleid 11 | - 18 deciared - |
| 7 TEAR WHITE I May 90 | RETUNG: 4-1 Tertimo, 5-1 Primo Lura, 6-1 Colestial Choir, 8-1 Rembo |
| 5 ACCOUNTANCY LEADER B Paling 8 9 | Waitzer, 10-1 Lockingforersishow, Ferne Again, 12-1 others |
| | MORENT TO A TRANSPORTED VINE VEHICLE AND ASSESSMENT |
| | |
| | 4.25 MILLGATE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) |
| 12 TOP OF THE FORM M. Johnston 8 9T Williams 9T Williams 9 | £5,100 added 3YO 7f |
| BETTENG: 11-4 Top Of The Form, 4-1 Brancheurt, 5-1 Grate Thines, 6-1 | |
| | 1 00- ALFAHRAL (220) H Thomson Jones 9 0 |
| Molly Drummond, 8-1 Soleto Boy, 19-1 Engler To Please, 12-1 others | 2 0 ENTILE SPARK (USA) (LA) C Oper 9 0 |
| | 3 04 BOLLIN JACOB (10) T Easterby 9 0 |
| DEAT BALDERSBY HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,100 | 4 33 DEPICTION (LO) (BF) R GLESS 9 0 L Charmock 12 |
| 2.50 BALDERSBY HANDICAP (CLASS D) ±5,000 added 5f | 5 OO GLONIA IMPERATOR (S) A Multipliant 9 C |
| | 5 424- HAMBIERSTEIN (224) M Strong 9 D Down Mickey 2 |
| 1 00230-3 HERE COMES A STAR (US) (C D) J Carr 8 10 Q A Collactor 22. | 7 2-2 MUTALMERA (16) R Amstrong 9 0 |
| 2 4000-00 CALL ME THE BLUE (149 (D) N Tinker 69 13 M Blinds 16 | 8 O MORDIC SUFF (DEN) (118) Mrs D Thomson 9 O R Lappin 6 |
| 3 1020-00 SALLY SLADE (8) (D) C Oper 49 11 8 Death at 21. | 9 O RAISE A REPPLE (16) Mrs D Thomson 9 D O Pears (3) 8 |
| 4 6100-00 MISIDER TRANDER (14) (D) Mrs J Ramadan 59 11.14 Decring 5 | 10 5 SURF CITY (10) W Hagh 90 Date Gibton 9 |
| 5 01234-0 THE SCYTHIAN (24) (D) Bob Jones 49 10 | 11 44-3442 CLASSIC BEAUTY (14) R Harts 89 A Medicy 13 |
| 6 3/45623- PALO BLANCO (206) (CD) T Barron 5 9 10 Flurning 8 | 12 00 ENCHWEED GLEST (15) P Harris 8 9 |
| 7 150500- NED'S BONNADA (220) (CD) M Dods 796, Dogs McKeous 27 | 13 O ROCKY STREAM (LD) R Wheeler 69 |
| 8 233000 (ALTRA BRET (23) (D) P Hastern 4 9 5Carmi Donito (7) 13 | 14 WERN CALLEY C Festivest 8 9 |
| 9 J12021 CHADWELL HALL CLAS (D) S Bowing \$92.C Tangers (S) 6 8 | - 14 decisred - |
| 10 0000-60 SEAU VENTURE (USA) (14) (D) FLee 8 9 2 R Lappin 1 | SETTING: 6-4 Handwarstolo, 9-4 Matadema, 8-1 Bollin Jacob, 12-1 De- |
| 11 542050 SELK COTTAGE (180) R Windows 4 8 12 Date Gibert 10 | piction, Albahani, 14-1 Classic Bounty, 20-1 others |
| 12 0-06360 GAGAURU (10) (0) P Bens 3 8 11 | |
| 13 (162242 MONTRESTAR (7) (0) P Barrs 3 B 10 5 Sentions 18 B | |
| 14 133320 TENOR (14) (CD) (SIF) D Nichols 58 9 | 4.55 COKWOLD HANDICAP (CLASS C) £7,650 |
| 45 272224 MALICELE (77) (Th blire C Kallouru & R.G D Nebben 20 | 4.00 |

| 2 - DRAVERBAKE (1) IN CREATION 9 (1 | |
|--|--|
| 3 0 EAGER TO PLEASE (15) Berry 9 0 G Carter 8 | 16 0000-00 SPANESH VERDICT (8) (CD) Damps Scorts 988 |
| 4 4 GRATE TIMES OF E Wennes 90 & Heat 5 | C Teader 55 4 |
| | 17 624830 NARRIESKA (ISS) (CD) M Chroman 6 8 7 |
| 5 0 MELL END BOY (8) M W Easterby 9 0 | 18 00-0240 WENTERDOE LAD (\$) DO P Evens 6.85 \$ Swarkers 14.8 |
| 5 SMOKEY FROM CAPLAN 1 J O'Neil 9 0 4 DelSeid 22 | |
| 7 TEAR WHITE I Mile 90A Mackey 3 | - 18 declared - |
| 8 ACCOUNTANCY LEADER B Paling 8 9 | RETING: 4-1 Terthum, 5-1 Prisso Lura, 6-1 Colestial Choir, 8-1 Rembo |
| 9 GLPSY PRINCESS M W Easterty 8 9 F Prince 1 | Waltzer, 10-1 Lockingforerskehow, Ferne Again, 12-1 others |
| 10 5 MOLLY DRUMBHOND (26) W Essy 8 9 | |
| 11 THEWRICHTONE G Oldron 89 | |
| 12 TOP OF THE FORM M Johnston 89T Williams 9 | 4.25 MILLGATE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) |
| - 12 decised - | 4.23 £5.100 added 3YO 7f |
| | |
| BETTENG: 11-4 Top Of The Form, 4-1 Brancheart, 5-1 Grate Times, 6-1 | 1 00- ALFAHRAL (220) H Thomson Jones 9 0 |
| Molly Drummood, 8-1 Bolero Boy, 18-1 Enger To Please, 12-1 others | 2 O BATTLE SPARK (USA) (LA) C Cyper 9 0 |
| l e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e | 3 04 BOLLIN JACOB (10) T Easterby 9 0 16 Birch 12 |
| | 4 33 DEPICTION (LIG BIF) R Guest 90 L Characte 11 |
| 2.50 BALDERSBY HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,100 | 5 00 GLORIA INFERITOR (S) A Multipliant 9 0 |
| added 5f | |
| , | 5 424- HAMMERSTEIN (224) M Strong 9 0 Down McKeourn 2 |
| 1 00230-3 HERE COMES A STAR (15) (C D) J Carr 8 10 O A Collans 22. | 7 2-2 MUTADARRA (16) R Amstrong 9 0 |
| 2 4000-00 CALL ME THI BLUE (149 (D) N Trivian 6 9 13 M Black 15 | 8 . O MORENIC SMFT (DIEN) (LIE) Mits D Thomson 9 OR Lappin 6 |
| 3 1020-00 SALLY SLADE (8) (D) C Coper 4 9 11 8 Deficiel 21 | 9 O RAISE A REPPLE (18) Mrs. D Thomson 9 0 O Peers (3) 8 |
| 4 6100-00 MISINER TRADER (1/9 (D) Mrs.) Ramsden 59 11.34 Dearing 5 | 10 5 SLEEF CRTY (10) W Hands 90Dele Gibton 9 |
| 5 01234-0 THE SCYTHAN (24) (D) Bob Jones 49 10 | 11 44-3442 CLASSIC BENUTY (I.4) R Hants 8 9 A Maday 13 |
| 6 3/45623- PALO BLANCO (206) (CD) T Barron 5 9 10 Familia(8 | 12 00 BICHNIED GLEST (15) P Hams 89 8 Hed 4 |
| 7 160600 NED'S BONNACK (220 K; D) M Dads 796, Dags McReaus 17 | 13 · O ROCKY STREEM (LD) R Whiteler 69 |
| 8 233000 (BJRA BSET (23) (D) P Hastern 495 Carni Danton (7) 13 | 12 · A Wast State of the day to the day to the day of t |
| | 14 WHEN CALEY C Festivest 8 9 |
| | - 14 declared - |
| | SETTING: 6-4 Handracretolo, 9-4 Matadema, 8-1 Bolika Jacob, 12-1 De- |
| | piction, Albebrai, 14-1 Classic Bounty, 20-1 others |
| 12 0-05360 GAGAERLI (10) (D) P Bers 3 8 11 | 1 |
| 13 0-62242 MONTRESTAR (7) (0) P Barrs 3 B 10 5 Seniors 16 B | 4.55 COXWOLD HANDICAP (CLASS C) £7,650 |
| 14 133320 TENOR (14) (CD) (SF) D Nichols 589 | A EE COXWOLD HANDICAP (CLASS C) £7,650 |
| 15 223321 ADMASHA (77) (D) Mess G Kelloway 4 8 9 | added 7f |
| 16 00-0005 STEPHENSONS ROCKET (EG (CD) () Nichols 5.8 8 | |
| | 1 2140 STORM BID (USA) (30) [D) E Dunion 4 10 0 |
| 17 2023-00 SWS WITH THE BAND (12) (D) 8 Michelium 5 8 6.4 Carter 2 | 2 . 253015 STAR TALENT (14) (D) Max G Kallency 5 99 |
| 18 2000-00 NATURAL KEY (12) (03) D Hayda Jones 385 A Mackey 12 | 3 10120-0 QUILLING (11) (D) M Dods 4 9 7 |
| 19 50606-2 ABLE SNEEDF (16) (D) M W Sestarby 48 0 R Mallace (7) 7 B | 4 11115 WHAS (12) (7) Mis L State 697 |
| 20 635500 KALAR (36) (CD) D Chepmen 7 8 0 Pressey (5) 14 8 | 5 0-38021, BARREL OF HOPE (S) (0) J L Gyre 4 9 6 (Sex) |
| 21 330360- DOMNIELE (203) (D) T Easterny 4 8 0 | 6 160000 PRIDE OF PENDLE (203) (C) (D) D Notholis 7 9 2 |
| | Alog Growns 10 |
| 22 10450 DANCING BANKBOW (225) (2) M Carragno 3 7 101 Cambook 9 - 22 declared | 7 20050-0 SOMERSON BOY COS (D) P Colver 8 9 2 & Duffield 14 |
| Minimum weight: 7st. 7h., True handloop weight: Dancing Reinbow 7st Bib. | 8 4413-0 JO MELL (US) (D) 7 Exclady 390 M Sheek 13 |
| MERCHAN REGIST (SL. III. INC. DATES PROPER VALUE REGIST AND ASSESSMENT (SC. CO.) | 9 4000-00 INIONELEDIEZE (38) (0) M Chernon 6 8 12 |
| BETTENE: 5-1 Awardse, 6-1. Charletell Hall, Abin Shartff, 8-1 Horn Counce A | P P Martin S 12 V |
| Star, Pato Bianno, 12-1 Insider Trader, 14-1 Call Me Fin Blass, 18-1 others | 10 01312-3 SNID STAR #53 (0) D Hards Jones 48 11 A Markey 6 |
| | 10 00312-3 SNAD STAR (63) (0) 0 Hayon Jones 4 8 11 A mastery o |
| | |

| TĀ | EE | COXWOLD HANDICAP (CLASS C) £7,650 |
|-----|-------------|--|
| בו | | added 7f |
| 1 | 2140 | SPORM RED (USA) (30) (7) E Dunlop 4 10 0 |
| | . 253015 | STAR TALENT (LA) (D) Miss G Kelleray 599 |
| 3 | 10120-0 | QUILLENG (11) (D) M Docts 4 9 7 Door McKeown |
| 4 | 111115 | RMOS (12) (D) Mis L State 697D Weight (3) 15 |
| 5 | | BARREL OF HOPE (5) (0) 1 L Gre 4 9 6 (Sec) |
| 6 | 160000 | PRIDE OF PENDLE (2003) (C) (D) D Notholis 7 9 2 |
| | - | |
| 7 | | SOMERFON BOY (26) (D) P Calver 8 9 2 |
| 8 | | JO MELL (JS) (D) 7 Easterly 3 9 0 |
| 9 | 4000-00 | INCOMESEDIMENTE (36) (0) M. Cherrion 6 8 12 |
| | | P P Marphy (5) 12 |
| | | SAND STAR (63) (D) D Haydr Jones 4 8 11 Minday (|
| 11 | 1246-20 | IT'S ACHOEMEC (6) (D) (BF) His J Parretters 4 8 8 |
| | | M Doming 1 |
| | 50-1305 | BARGASH (15) (D) P Bers 48 7 |
| 13 | 405500 | ALLEGOR'S MODE (7) (D) TO Barran 886 |
| | 0030-05 | THE YOUR LADY (7) (C) B McMehoo 5 8 6 |
| 15 | 431053 | MASHANT (USA) (15) (D) M Chepman 8 8 4 P McCabe (5) |
| 16 | 0-12006 | WHERE SORBEL (15) (D) A Hartson 5 8 2 |
| | | - 15 decired - |
| BE | 11 PROC 3-1 | Barrel Of Hope, 4-1 K's Academic, 6-1 to Mell, 6-1 Sta |
| Tel | est, 10-1 | Pytdo Of Paydie, 12-1 Quiling, 14-1 others |

| MODETTI | 2 3031P3 TRAE ENOUGH (26) C Brooks 7: |
|--|---|
| 2.20 Dutosky 2.50 Merlins Dream 3.25 Nova Run | 3 F2F215 WATERFORD CASTLE (11) K Ba |
| 3.55 Father Dowling 4.30 Mill O'The Rags 5.00 | 4 42163P BANNTOWN BELL (24) (D) ALPO |
| Amari King 5.30 Di's Last | 5 11PPP-PU JACY JACY'S VOYMAGE (S) Has I Sc |
| GOING: Good to firm. | 6 4-POOFF LENTHALL PRENCESS (11) J No. |
| Right-hand course with 300yd run-in. | |
| Rececourse is north of city on A49. Hereford railway station | 7 055P65 L'UOMO PIU (8) A Barrow 12 10 |
| is one mile away. ADMISSION: Club 212; Tameraulis 29; course | 8 526-542 FRTHER DOWNLING (ID) G Balding |
| enclosure 25. GAR PARK: Free. | 9 4U3-OFF BABILEY BURY (28) (C) J Name |
| -ee- | 10 143424 TURPHY'S GREEN (LGS) (C) (BF) |
| | 11 34P000 MARGOTS SREEN (26) (C) J Ba |
| BLINEERED FIRST TIME: Ratainen (2.20), Palmonth Bay (vi- | 12 264624 BANNED BRY (19) (D) G Barnet |
| sured, 2.50). Death To The Phone (visored, 4.30). | 13 653352 PRUDENT PEGGY (26) R Frost 9 |
| WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None. | 14 UPPOSO CLOWN ARROUND (25) (C) J Hus |
| LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS: Wyspard Lady (5.30) has been sent | - 14 decimed - |
| 221 miles by Mrs M Reveley Linguiste, from Cleveland; Osecallan- | Minimum weight: 10st True handkap weights: |
| doras (2.50) sent 188 miles from F Murphy's Middlehum stable in | gots Green 9st 8th, Bayard Bay 9st 7th, Prudent |
| north Yorkshire: Silver Sninney (5.30) sent 188 miles from PS Be- | 9st 1h. |
| win's Ashby-De-La-Zonch stable in Leicestershire. | BETTIME: 7-2 Time Broads, 4-1 Fether Dowler |
| | Ple. 10-1 Weterford Castle, Bayard Bay, 12- |
| I THE DI ACEDIT SELLING HANDICAD | , |
| 2.20 TOTE PLACEPOT SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,500 added 2m 1f | FEET BOOKS OF IVED NOVI |
| HUROLE (CLASS G) \$2,500 added 2m 11 | 4.30 BODEN OLIVER NOVI |
| 1 1P-FF10 RANNINAM (52) D McCam 9 12 0 | DLE (CLASS E) \$3,0 |
| 2 020025 MUSTAHE (24) (D) R Hodges 7 11.11 | 1 1-05 HARLEQUIN WALK (26) (CO) R |
| 3 3F230S COLUMNY PROMITE (26) A Jones 8 11 8 | 2 3-2214F LADY CONFESS (282) John R U |
| 4 F230SP BISHOPS CASILE (BB) R Finst 8 11.4 | 3 00-030 SWEET TRENTINO (43) M Tate : |
| 5 40406(0- PHALAROPE (595) K Morgan 8 11 2 | 4 P515-14 MELOTHE RAGS (28) (89) Mr. |
| 6 500 PUTOSKY (28) R 0"Subten 6 11 10 0"Subten | 4111,c |
| 7 UPFO45 CASHFLOW CRUSHS (226) J Novins 4 10 13 | 5 0024 LAURA LYE (23) B De Haan 6 1 |
| 8 F3CP(IC) 10RD SLEWNARA (65) R Judies 8 10 12 | 8 045120 JAVA SHRANE (14) Tuck 5 10 |
| 9 SP0303 WHAT'S THE JOKE (SB) J Tuck 7 10 11 | 7 POS-LINNE STREET BLUES (376) S.C. |
| 10 001444 LAMESON (26) Peerce 9 10 8 | B 0003P-0 TAYLORS HEGHFLYER (2389) R F |
| 11 506436 GEORGE LANE (31) (887) F. Lorden 8 10 8 Lorder | 9 00B532 COLUMNIL (8) R Alexop 5 10 3 |
| 12 00320-0 SET-EN-ALIGNT (46) B Smert 6 10 7 | 10 000040 DUKE OF BUDWORTH (B) H Sh |
| 13 46507- MYLOROMAYOR (1928) P Boxen 9 10 0 D Welsh (3) | 11. 006 DASH TO THE PHONE (38) K M |
| 14 OPPYOFF DABALARK (35) R Lao 7 10 0 Raillion | 12 5880 WORTH THE WALT (67) F Jordan |
| 15 PSP004 WOODLANDS BRERRY (7) P Principed 5 10 0 | - 12 decigned - |
| 16 00000P MUSICAL VOCATION (35) B Precce 5 10 0 W Greating (7) | Minimum neight: 10st. True handcap weights |
| - 16 declared - | Dash To The Phone 9st 10th, Worth The Walt & |
| Minimum weister 10st. True handican weistes: Dabalani, 9st 10th, Woodlands | RETURNS: 7-2 Mili O'The Rada, 4-1 Lady Co |

| | | Mestabli, 5-1, Rainteen, 6-1 Colvey Prince, 8-1 Lamber Lane, 14-1 Phainrope, Hylordinayer, 18-1 others |
|--------|---------|---|
| 2 | 2.50 | SUN VALLEY NOVICE CHASE (CLASS £4,200 added 2m 3f |
| 1 | 1PF2LP | FALMOUTH BAY (17) (D) S Sherwood 7 11 9 |
| 2 3 | | MERLENS OREAM (31) (D) (BF) O Sherwood 7 11 9 |
| 4 | | OSCAE, AN DORAS (1.4) (C) F Murphy 7 11 9 B Feedon (|
| 5 6 | | DORMSTON BOYO (35) T Well 6 11 3 |
| 7 | 16-P406 | DANO MALTA (FR) (St) D Nicholson 5 10 10 |
| | | Dino Maits, 9-4 Februarity Bay, 3-1 Morfess Dream, 7-1 G , 8-1 Hayinck, Lad, 16-1 Dormston Boyo, 25-1 Rent Day |
| | | • |
| 3 | 3.25 | RED CROSS NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS £3,500 added 2m 3f 110yds |
| 1 | 10 | EDEM AL HABBES (14) D McCam 5 11 8 D McCa |

| 1 14 | PENUO | | | prejes | ـس س 15 | |
|--------|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| BETTE | 10:2-1 (| يحائمانا ومزر | 9-4 Felano | oth Bay, 3. | 1 Mordus | Irean, 7-1 |
| call A | Doctor, | 8-1 Fla yj a | ris Lad, 16 | 1 Documents | в Воус, 25 | -1 Rent D |
| | | | | | | |
| 12 | 元 」 | RED CR | OSS NO | WICE H | urdle | (CLASS |
| 3. | 20] | £3,500 | added | 2m 3f : | 110yds | |
| • | | | | | | . 9 He |
| 2 25 | | | (46) (Br) A | | | |
| | | | HOWARD | | | |
| 4 | | | BOY J Blad | | | |
| 5 | | | PARKISE | | | |
| 6 | OP4 | DAJRAAN | 25) N Tuest | on-Deves 7 | 112 | T. |
| 7 0 | | | SS (3) G AM | | | |
| 8 | | | HHER (23) | | | |
| | | | G Jones 8 | | | |
| 10 | | | DWER (70) | | | |
| 11 | | | 200N (1.7) | | | |
| 12 | | | 11) C Nesh | | | |
| | | | (7) Mas C | | | |
| 14 | P | PUT SLAC | OSSERD (7) R | | <u> </u> | |
| | | | – 14 cc ner, 7-2 M | olgred – | 4 12 | L Warren |
| Chin | Al Mahas | 1912 UU | no. 14-1 Gr | Contin 20 | - p. 1 majorijem. 1 Danie sema | . 25.1 Mile |
| | | -1 A-1 LEA | | | | |

| 3.55 STRONGBOW HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £4,000 added 3m 1f 110yds |
|---|
| 1 3-55P60 PETTY BRIDGE (63) (CD) A James 12 11 10 |
| 2 3031P3 TRAE ENDOSH (26) C Brode 7 11 7 |
| 3 P2F215 WATERFORD CASTLE (11) K Baloy 9 11 7 T 3 Marphy (3) |
| 4 42163P BANKTONK BEL (24) (D) M Pice 7 11 5 D White (3) Y |
| 5 11PP-PU JULY JULYS VOYAGE (S) Has J Sceners 13 11 0 |
| Adr & Politick (5) |
| 6 4-POOFF LERRINAUL PRINCESS (11) J Neetham 10 10 10 |
| Mr R Thornton (7) |
| 7 055P65 L'UCIAO PIO (8) A Barrow 12 10 8 B Powell |
| 8 526-542 FATHER DOWNLING OD G Balding 9 10 5 B Feedon (3) V |
| 9 4U3-OFF EMBLEY BURY (28) (C) 1 Nations 8 10 1 |
| 10 143424 TURPIN'S GREEN (165) (C) (BP) J Nine 13 10 0 |
| T Describe (2) |
| 11 34P000 MAGGOTS SPEEN (26) (C) Brackey 9 10 0 |

| _ = 14 decimed - |
|--|
| Minimum weight: 10st. True handkap weights: Turpin's Green 9st 12th, Mag |
| stats Green Ses 8th, Bayeard Bay Ses 7th, Prudent Peggy Ses 4th, Clown Aroun |
| 9st 1lh. |
| BETTING: 7-2 Time Enough, 4-1 Father Donalog, 8-1 Brantonin RE, L'Ucon |
| Phs. 10-1 Westerford Castle, Bareard Bay, 12-1 others |
| |

| | BODEN OLIVER NOVICE HANDICAP HUR- DLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 1f |
|-----------|---|
| 1 1-05 | HARLEQUIN WALK (26) (CO) R O'Sullivan 5 11, 100 O'Sullivan |
| 2 3-2214F | LADY CONFESS (262) John R Upson 6 21 2 |
| 3 00-030 | SWEET TREPUTING (43) M Tage 5 11 1 |
| 4 P515-14 | MELLOTHE RAGS (28) (RF) Mrs D Hane 7 10 11 |
| | |
| 5 0024 | LAURA LYE (23) B De Haan 6 10 9 Railton |
| 8 045120 | JAVA SHRINE (14) Tuck 5 10 9 M Richards |
| 7 PO5- | LINE STREET BLUES (376) S Creston 5 10 5 M Kelghley (7) |
| B 0003P-0 | TAYLORS HEGHELYER (239) R Price 5 10 4 |
| 9 008532 | COLUMNIL (5) R Alsop 5 10 3 |
| | DUKE OF BUDWORTH (B) M Sheppard 6 10 0 D Wales (3) |
| | DASH TO THE PHONE (39) K Morrain 4 10 0 A S Smith V |
| | |

BETTIME: 7-2 MER O'The Rags, 4-1 Lady Confess, 5-1 Harts 6-1 Columb, 8-1 Laura Lye, Linne Street Bloes, 12-1 others.

| ŀ | 5.00 | JAIL-BREAK HUNTERS CHASE (CLASS H) £2,500 added 2m 3f |
|---|----------|---|
| 1 | 22-6345 | AL HASHBUR (LA) N Flatous 12 12 7 Mr N Flatout (7) |
| 2 | 08P-341 | AMARI KING (8) J Wall 12 12 7 Mr C Word Thomas (7) |
| 3 | 5-65114 | FRANKLIAR FRANCO (8) (CD) \$ Camoro 10 12 7.Mar L Lay (7) E |
| 4 | P/42-410 | HAMPER (36) (D) Pers Buter 13 12 4 Jdr N R Mitchell (7) 9 |
| | | SEA SEARCH (1518) C Johnson 9 12 0 Mr R Thorston (7) |
| 6 | 0/1/2-23 | TUFFAUT GEORGE (S) Mis P Granger 9 12 OMr A Phillips (7) |
| 7 | 404-P | BROWN BABY (80) S Garrore 10 11 9 Afr T Byrne (5 |
| - | | ~ 7 declared ~ |

| 6 | 0/1/2-23 | TUFFAUT GEORGE (S) Mrs P Granger 9 12 OMr A Phillips (7 |
|-----|------------|--|
| 7 | 406-P | BROWN BABY (60) S Garrore 10 11 9 If T Byrne (5 |
| | | - 7 declared - |
| BE | TENG: 5-4 | Ameri King, 7-2 Teffout George, 9-2 Paraller Friend, 8-1 / |
| Har | ádori, Sea | Search, 12-1 Hymper, 16-1 Brown Gaby |
| | • | • • • • • • • |

| | 2. Wyr |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Flyer, Hot Mary, 10- | forv Plan Plan |

| 4 | | INFRINGER (200) (In) LASIZ RATES IT 3 TO 4 THE MIN INSURANCE (1) SI |
|-----|-------------|---|
| 5 | | SEA SEARCH (1118) C Johnson 9 12 0 Nr R Thornton (7) |
| 6 | QHL2-23 | TUFFHUT GEORGE (S) Mrs P Granger 9 12 Oldr A Phillips (7) |
| 7 | 406-P | BROWN SABY (60) S Gamore 1,0 11 9 Mr T Byrne (5) |
| | | ~ 7 declared ~ |
| B | TIME: 54 | Ameri King, 7-2 Teffout George, 9-2 Pamiliar Friend, 8-1 Al |
| ſſ. | otápi. Ses | Search, 12-1 Hamper, 16-1 Brown Barby |
| | - | |
| п | | RED CROSS MARES NATIONAL HUNT FLAT |
| K | ひびし | RACE (CLASS H) £1,550 added 2m 1f |
| _ | | |
| 1 | 1 | WYNYARD LADY (81) Mrs M Reveloy 5 11 12nd Henrington (7) |
| 2 | | COOL VIRITUE Capt T Forster 5 11 5 3 Renton (3) |
| 3 | 24 | DIS LAST (44) M Pipe 6 11 5O Burrone (7) |
| 4 | | DUMBLETON BROOK (38) M Pipe 5 11 5 B Moore (7) |
| 5 | | FLEXHING (SG) T Holland-Maran 6 11 5_Mr C Word Tiromas |
| 6 | 4 | FLOOSY (19) (RF) J Edwards 5 11 5R Johnson |
| 7 | | HOT MARY N Terson-Deves 6 11 5 D Weish (3) |
| 8 | 0- | JAMES JOY (383) Greene Roe 5 11, 5 Martin Smith (7) |
| 9 | | PACIFIST Antitopy Foster 5 11 5 Principle (7) |
| 10 | | RAKAPOSHI IMP C Jones 8 11 5 |
| 11 | | SELVER SPINNEY P Hourt 5 11 5T J Murphy (3) |
| 12 | | ADEPT FLYER (56) I Ving 4 11 0 |
| L | | LADY REDECCA S Chaption 4 11 0 |
| 1 | | LIGHTING DOVE Serion Esde 4 11 0, |
| 15 | | MRS MCCLUSKY Mis P Dudieki 4 11 0Michael Hant (7) |
| 11 | | SO WELCOME N Lighteden 4 11 0 |
| 17 | 1 | TUPENNY SMOKE Grasme Ros 4 21 0Stram Graham (7) |
| | | - 17 declared - |
| В | THE 2-1 | Wyssyard Lady, 4-1 DFs Last, 7-1 Adopt Piyer, Hot Mary, 10- |
| 1 | Coal Virtue | Hexaling, 14-1 others. |
| - | | |
| - | | |

| 1. 1. nk. (P Cole, Whatcombe). Tote: £1.10, £2.10, £1.80. DF: £6.40. CSF: 7. Trio: £7.00. | 1. U GO £3.00. D 4.30: |
|--|------------------------------|
| 5: 1. ANGEL CHIMES (J Stack) 9-1; | Joker 4- |
| den Pond 15-2: 3. Warming Trends | ran. 1, 2 |
| 1 ran. 4-1 fav Sky Dome (6th), Sh-hd. | £10.40; |
| Banks, Newmarkett, Total: £17.80: | CSF: £6 |
| £2.40, £1.90, DF: £63.80, CSF: | 5.00: |
| 9. Tricest: £322,38. Trice £75.30. NR: | Green G |
| L | 8-11 tay |
| 5: 1. MBCK'S LOVE (L. Detton) 3-1; 2. | liffe. Lam |
| ian Knight 10-1; 3. Ramoez 6-1. 5 | DF: £8.9 |
| 11 fav Clever Cliche (4th). Sh-hd, 2. | Placepol |
| bin Surpor, Dubai). Tota: £2.90: | Place 6: |
| £2.40. DF; £5.40. CSF; £23.44. | |
| | |

Newhole.

3.05: 1. NBCN'S LOVE (L. Detton) 3-1; 2. Bahastian Knight 10-1; 3. Rammooz 6-1. 5 ran. 8-11 fav Gever Cliche (4th). Sh-hd. 2. (Seed bin Surror, Duba). Tothe: £2-90; £1-50, £2-40. DF: £5-40. CSF: £23,44.
3.40: 1. RYADIAN IT Quanti 10-11 for: 2. Barrooj 12-1; 3. Sacrament 22-1. 9 ran. Nt. 1. (P. Cole, Whetcombe). Tothe: £2-10; £1-20, £1-10, £2-60. DF: £7-40. CSF: £12,04. Tho: £47.40. Tothe: £1-20, £1-70, £1-70, £1-70. Tothe: £1-70, £1-70, £1-70, £1-70. Tothe: £1-70, £1-70, £1-70. LA-9.50. Tothe: £1-70, £1-70, £1-70, £1-70. LA-9.50. Tothe: £1-70, £1-70. CSF: £1-70, £1-70, £1-70, £1-70. LA-9.50. Tothe: £1-70, £1-70, £1-70, £1-70. LA-9.50. LA-90. 4.50: 1.74 RB (WOsson) 11-4; 2. Fata-fully Evens fav; 3. Seirents 12-1, 14 ran. 5, 242. (E Dunlop, Newtrarke), Totas: 53,70; 61,70; 52,40; 62,70; 67; 62,80; CSF; 65,75; Thot £8,50.

post, I don't have to worry

He commented that even if

Buzz Chace, Paragallo's rac-ing manager, added: "You have

a horse with a lot of tactical

speed. It's a long stretch of a

quarter mile. If he can't estab-lish himself in a quarter-mile.

we're in the wrong place. We

D Wayne Lukas, a trainer

with an excellent record in the

disappointment about his five-

shouldn't be in the race."

in his opinion.

about that," Paragallo said.

5.75, Tho: £8.50.
5.20: 1. MISS PRAVDA (Pot Etitlery) 5-2;
5.Betu Brumo 1-3 tov. 2 ran. 20. (P Waln, Lambourn), Totke 52.00.
selepot: £7,770.70: £9.850.20 comed
mand to Neumanitet today,
iscepot: £3.3.80. Quandout: £4.40.
isce 6: £36.77. Place 5: £24.04. HAMILTON

2.15: 1. TAZIBARI (Darren Molfatt) 4-1; 2. Bollero 7-2; 3. Life On The Street 4-7 fax, 6 ran. ½, 15. (D Molfat, Cartmell, Totat: 54-20; £1.80, £2.20, DF: £9,70, CSF: £16.96. F16.96.
2.45: 1. AUST BOB () Fortune) 6-1; 2. My Charrywell 6-1; 3. Rinus Manor 33-1. 7 ran. 6-5 fav Gamock Valley (6th). 9. ns. (5 Retievel, Middleham). Totat: £8.20; £4.90. £4.40. DF: £46.10. CSF: £45.68.
3.20: 1. CALDER KING (Mr V Lukarusk). 4-1; 2. Swinging Strikes 7-2; 3. old School House 3-1. 5 ms. 7-4 fav Mc Cheroise (4th). 1. ½. U L. Eyre, Thirsty, Tota: £4.90; £2.50. £1.80. DF: £5.60. CSF: £16.25. NR: Walworth Lady.

Kentucky Derby favourite Unbridled's Song badly drawn "We had nine possibles and

Unbridled's Song, the warm favourite for today's Kentucky we thought we could run six or Derby, must defy a poor draw. seven starters," Lukas, who had but Ernie Paragallo, Unbridled's Song's remains convinced his colt can overcome that handicap. "My only concern in the race was getting broads."

"We may not win this thing."

Lukas continued. "But I bet you turning for home that the the race was getting knocked around in traffic. From the 19

Lukas horses) in the area. It won't be easy to handle our five horses." This year, Lukas's five Derby runners have compiled a his grey were "tied to the grandstand, he'll still beat this field". record of six wins, seven seconds and three thirds in 20 starts, 14 of them in graded stakes races.

But none is coming off a victo-The five will take Lukas' number of Derby starters to 31 since 1981. Lukas, who won the race with Winning Colors in 1988 and Thunder Gulch last year, insists he only enters horses for the race which hold a real chance.

Kentucky Derby, has expressed City By Night, a 12-1 for the race, was scratched yesterday strong challenge for the Classic - saying it still is not big enough with an abscess on his left front foot

> RACING RESULTS 3.55: 1. CLEFTON FOX (S D Williams) 5-2; 2. Ten Pest Six 20-1: 3. Semusitan 7-2. 6 ran. 9-4 fav Loveyumillons (4th). ½, 1. U Gover, Worksop). Totae: 5.3.30; £1.50, £3.00, DF: £20.30. CSF: £33.90. NEWMARKET

| | TOTAL CANDON IN PARTIES AND STATE |
|--|--|
| | 4.30: 1. DANICO (A Daly) 14-1; 2. Alpha |
| Ŀ | Joker 4-1 fav; 3. Flash in The Pan 5-1. |
| š | ran. 1, 21/2, (S Wilhams, Neventarker). Total |
| | £10.40; £2.80, £2.20, £1.80. DF: £11.20 |
| ٠. | |
| t | CSF: £65.67. Tra: £109.60. |
| l. :::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::: | 5,00: 1, FORIEST BOY (J F Egun) 5-2: 2 |
| ř | Green Gem 12-1: 3. Tabriz 7-1, 5 ray |
| • | 8-11 fav Pasternak (5th). 1/4, 31/2. (K McAu |
| | OF THE REPORT OF THE PARTY OF T |
| Ļ | liffe, Lambourn). Tote: £2.90; £1.30, £3.00 |
| 5 | DF: £8.90. CSF: £23.14. |
| ī | Placepot: £442.20. Quadpot: £43.50. |
| Ë | Place 8: £1,478.21. Place 5: £496.29. |
| | MRCS O: TT'410'TT' NEGO 9: T430'52' |
| | NEWTON ABBOT |
| 5 | |
| _ | 1.50: 1. TILT TECH FLYER IR Johnson |
| F | 7-1: 2. Urban Lily 12-1: 3. Todor Fligh |
| | 9-2, 15 ran, 100-30 few Touch Silver, 6, 11 |
| - | 2-5" TO HOLF WAY-ON ION IONES SANGE OF TH |
| | (i Jones). Tota: £9,20; £4.00, £2.50, £1.90 |
| | |

DF: £26.90, CSF: £85.57, Tricast: £396.14. Trict £30.60. 2.25: 1 ALLO GEORGE (A Thornton) jamin Lancaster 5-1. 5 ran. 245, 27, (A New-combe). Tota: £1.90; £1.10, £4.90. DF: £19.30. CSF: £19.34.

£19.30. CSF; £19.34.
2.55: 1. MANIE A STAND (D Brigueter)
10.1: 2. Toppings 7-1; 3. Rotifs 5-4 fav. 14
ran. 25. 3. (M Poel, Totac £12.30; £7.60,
£2.50, £1.30. DF; £55.80, CSF; £77.88. Tho:
£28.10. NN: Blazing Miracle, Inst Wickard.
3.30: 1. DMMOND FORT (A P McCoy)
4-1; 2. AR For Luck 4-5 tax; 3. Golden Opsi
25-1. 6 ran. Dest. 144. (I McCormochie.).
Totac £3.10; £1.20, £1.50. DF; £2.40. CSF;
£5.97;
4.05: 1. MUNTASHUM (B Fenton) 16-1; 2.
Daily Sport Girl 7-4 fax; 3. San Diego Charger 5-1. 6 ran. 2. 24c. (I Fittich-Heyes). Tota:
£30.00: £5.20, £1.40. DF; £14.40. CSF;
£41.28.

4.40: 1. AR SHOT (R Johnson) 5-6 far, 2. Tothewoods 6-1; 3. Lansdowne 9-2, 11 sta. 14, 11. (D Nicholson), Teter, £1.60: £1.10, £2.40, £1.30, DF; £5.60, CSF; £7.10. Toto £1.00.

5.10: 1. SHLYER THYNE (A Bates) 5-1; 2. Country Tarquin 20-1; 3. Dacelo Evens in. 16 sta. 242, 28, (MS) Pitman), Toto: £4.80: £2.20, £3.20, £1.20, DF; £169.40, CSF; £101.73, Trot: £16.40.

Placepot: £12.70. Quadput: £2.00.

Place 6: £17.02. Place 5: £4.31.

UTTOXETER

.Y Sunday

2.40 Iktasab 3.10 Rosgill 3.40 Astings 4.15 Chadwick's Ginger 4.45 Mister Drum 5.20 Persian Tactics 5.55 Barrie Star 6.25 Foxles Lad

3.20 SPRING MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,100 added 1m 4f

G. MICHELE'S ELLA (200) C. Brost 4 9 5 ______ M. Fembro 5 1023 ARCTIC FINACY (USA) (215) P. Horre 3 8 5 _____ M. Bicknetow 12 DARK SOUND A MATCHAN 3 8 5 _____ M. Bicknetow 12 10 HARBER HOUSE (TR) (S) C. Crest 3 8 5 ____ S. Sandors 12 2 INCLINA MICLENIA (36) C. Welf 3 8 5 ____ S. Dadfield 10

4-2 NASS ALHERIA (17) (RF) M Struct 385_Deen McKenen 3 03- MENTAL PRESSURE (231) Mrs M Revolvy 385 A College 6

GOING: foud (Good to Farm in places).

Left-hand course. Run-in of 170yd.

Course in SE of town near B5017. Unoneter station (Derby-Crewe line) adjoins course. ADMISSHON: Club £15 (OAPs £12): Tauersalls £10 (OAPs £7); Course £3. CAR FARK: Free.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Wanstand (visured, 2.40), Star Of David (A.29).
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.
LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Imperial Homoru (6.25) has been seen 28th miles by N Lampard from Eingsbridge, Devon.

2.40 BILL LOVE NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 470 2m __W Mersion __A Thombox ____S Fox Y __A Ook OLDIG RADICAL J Upson 25 GREY BLADE (11) Mas P Pic 10 7

OOOP SUPER BRUSH (46) P Johnson 10 7 _______ Mr M Redda - 8 declared -- 80: 5-4 Bdosah, 3-3 Wanstand, 9-2 Laucer, 8-1 Super Brush, 12-ESTRACE: 5-4 Adasso, 3-3 Wannished 1 Young Radical, Card, 14-1 others

3.10 WS ATKINS HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS 0) £3,750 added 2m 4f 110yds | 231903 CHICASO'S REST 128 (CD 87) K Wingtons 9 13 10 J Roam 8
| 246404P LEASSU (48) (20) A J Wiscon 13 11 7 ... Claric Webb (5)
| 3 600105 PHEEDINE PETER (26) (0) 0 Browners 9 11 6 LM Browners V
| 124/123 WARDOT (84) (0) Ms M Resels 7 11 5 ... R Hodge
| 155141 WCERDY RIMLER (26) (0) J Lerieurs 5 11 1 ... D Signate
| 0 00055 RRHOUSE (14) (5) 6 Cambridge 8 11 1 ... Mr J Cambridge
| 0 00055 RRHOUSE (14) (5) 6 Cambridge 8 11 1 ... Mr J Cambridge
| 0 00055 RRHOUSE (14) (5) 6 Cambridge 8 11 1 ... Mr J Cambridge
| 0 00055 RRHOUSE (14) (5) 6 Cambridge 8 11 1 ... Mr J Cambridge
| 1 14630 STOTLE ALLEY (425) W Clay 10 10 8 ... Gay Lomb (5)
| 1 14630 STOTLE ALLEY (425) W Clay 10 10 8 ... Gay Lomb (5)
| 1 267-003 EMERALD RULEY (425) W Clay 10 10 6 ... A P MicCoy
| 10 FO0125 ROSERL (6) Ms M Jones 10 10 6 ... A P Mr J F Tilley
| 10 400105 T J Marchel 9-2 Woord's Rober, 5-1 Chicago's Best, 11-2 Rose

BETTIME: 7-2 Viendet, 9-2 Vicency Raier, 5-1 Calcago's Best, 11-2 Ros-gill, 7-1 Pinecone Peter, 15-2 Emerated Raier, 10-1 Seaste, 14-1 others

3.40 BETA WASTE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS B) £10,000 added 3m 2f F23P PP LOND RELIC (SI) 5 Brookshaw 10 12 0.

4.15 MICH MARES NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,100 added 2m 5f 23225 CHROMEN(25 GENERIC (25) W Timent 8 11 10... D Parker (2) FLPPZZ ONER THE ESLAND (9) 1M schools 8 10 12... F Timent 100 FD MATHEMAN (9) 1M schools 8 10 12... F Timent 100 FD MATHEMAN (9) M Schools 7 10 8... A Dobbie V 1-01570 TIMENT (82) 1MON 8 10 17... W McFachard 505/24 THEMENO (25) 1 MON 9 10 10 0... A R Kannange

MI STICKS

MINISTER STATE

7 APZOP MEDITION. MINISTRA PARTIES AND APPEAR OF A STATE OF MEDITION OF A STATE OF MEDITION OF A STATE OF A ST

4.45 WIGERAID HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,750 added 2m

5.20 CALOR BAS NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E)

5/23/124 PERSIAN VACTICS (152) (0) (MF) K Belley 7 11.10 S McNell
5/23/124 PERSIAN VACTICS (152) (0) (MF) K Belley 7 11.10 S McNell
5/23/124 PERSIAN VACTICS (152) (0) (MF) K Belley 7 11.10 S McNell
10/20/12 CREMINAL RECORD (USK) (7) P Backley 8 11 4 — A Monthon
10/20/15 125 MARCHENDO (154) F Ventley 9 11 4 — W McNell
110.55 MCREMINO (157) (3) S Bookleto 6 11 4 — W McNell
110.55 MCREMINO (157) (3) S Bookleto 6 11 4 — W McNell
110.55 MCREMINO (157) (3) S Bookleto 6 11 4 — Gry Londs (3)
-6 Section 6
11085 7.45 Section Tables 7.2 Short W Media 8.9 Children Indian — to consense —
DETITATE: 7-4 Presion Vectics, 7-2 Star Of Duniel, 9-2 Criminal Record, 7
1 Yest Match, 8-1 Micharado, los Magis

5.55 HOUGHTON VAUGHAN MAIDEN OPEN NH FLAT RACE (CLASS H) (DIV I) \$2,000

- 15 declared beTTING: 7-21 Mighty Galo, Pointed Rosseth, 5-1 Barris Stir, Symple
sy's Son, 6-1 Rhear Ray, 8-1 Arctic Publics, Distant-Port, 12-1 others 6.25 HOUGHTON VALIGHAN MAIDEN OPEN NH FLAT RACE (CLASS H) (DIV I) £2,000

2 BAYERO (36) C Egenon 5 11.5 JA McCarthy
4 FOODS (AD (37) M Babtege 5 11.5 A Bette (5)
0 FRANCS EXTER (56) Ms. J Fluorin 5 11.5 A Bette (5)
0 BAYERAL HONORS (50) N Lempari 5 11.5 Chair Wieb (9)
0 BAYERAL HONORS (50) N Lempari 5 11.5 Chair Wieb (9) O MATERIAL HONDES (FO) N Lempard 5 11 5 ... Short wrote by O MESTER GENEROSITY (FG) C Weedon 5 11 5 ... Short wrote by O Michelon 6 11 5 ... Short Marke (F) Michelon 6 11 5 ... Short Michelon 6 11 5 .

WARWICK HYPERION

5.45 A Windy Citizen 6.15 General Shirley 6.45 Edimbourg 7.15 Distant Echo 7.45 Sounds Strong 8.15 Winter Rose

Left-hand course. The 5f course has a sharp dog-left turn at

Rececourse is west of they on B4095. There is a regular bus service from the railway stations at both Warwick (1m away) and Leamington Spa (over 2m away). ADMISSION: Club 512 (16 to 24-year-olds \$6); Tattersells \$8; Course \$5. CAR PARE: Club \$3.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None. WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None. LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Final Pride (8.15) has been sent 176 miles by P Bowen from Havesforthest, Dyfed; Amatartic Tern (8.15) sent 144 miles from G R Oktoyd's UpperHeimeley stable in

5.45 WILLOUGHBY NOVICE HUNTER CHASE (CLASS H) £1,400 added 2m 4f 110yds 1 F3143 HOWARYASUN (14) Mrs C Haidings 8 12 7 (I)12-5 BLUE CHEEK (1/4) (CD) | Meton 10 12 5 _ Nor Al Bradley (7) 127222 A WHINEY CITIZEN (R) (D) Mrs C Hote 7 12 2 _ Nor R Media (7)

5P/P/- COLONEL FAIRFAX (718) Kim Madhews 8 12 0 ... 9 64/- HOBMOBBER (778) / Docker 9 12 0 _____ No / Docker (7) 10 PL/SPPP- MANOR RANGER (512) / Poulson 10 12 0 _ No A Baiding (7) 11 50/6A/3- PONT DE PNIX (380) Mes / Prigson 10 12 0_ Mar R Landberr (7) 12 F2-33 REYMAN (CISC) A Traded 8 12 0 Mr / Trico-Rolpin (5)
13 O SHANBALLYMORE (7) J Tilby 7 12 0 Mr / Trico-Rolpin (5)
- 12 declared BETTING: 5-2 A Windy Chime. 3-1 Honorysom, 5-1 Nuo Chook, 7-1 Pont de Paix, 10-2 Reyman, 14-2 Cathgai, 10-1 Hohoobbee, 20-1 others.

6.15 BARFORD SELLING HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,450 added 2m RUSHOU ZHOURDES (2/4) I O'Shee 8 11 5 ______ A P Nichay R-SPOD DOMINORASE INSIGHT (1/4) C Brooks 5 11 5 _____ A Brooksy G-802 GENERAL SHEELEY (2/6) P Hodger 5 11 5 _____ A Claimse (7) 5-3 NICK THE BESCUIT (8) R Philips 5 11 5 _____ I Brookse (7) 8125TC LISAGUE A) Wilson 5 11 5 _____ D J Bordaell G-34422 SECRET ROBANIA (822) T Greathwal 6 11 5 W Humphrays

- 15 declared -BETTANG: 7-2 Boltroca, 4-1 Seneral Shirley, 9-2 Mich The Missolt, 7-1 Donk-forget Langua, 10-1 Quilleon, Russic Longue, 14-1 Secret Formatia, 16-1 Against The Clock, 20-1 others

6.45 VETERANS CHASE (CLASS C) £6,000 added 3m 2f

7 55-3615 myreczynom powy przy march – 7 daptarnej – FEITING: 3-1 Willisterd, 4-1 Donney Dei Lago, 4-1 Straight Talk, 9-2 Stab ope Hall, 5-1 Edinbourg, 10-1 For Sealer, 16-1 Mint

7.15 HIGGS & HILL HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS C) £5,000 added 2m

002102 AMENICIO (21) (D) & Harwood 5 11 13

BETTRYS: 11-4 Amencio, 3-1 Albenins, 5-1 Distant Scho, 11-2 Keep Me in Mind, 7-1 Teen Jay, 8-1 Goldings

7.45 ALDERMINSTER NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,500 added 2m 4f 110yds 2:1F SOUNDS STRONG (24) (BF) D Michelson 7:11.9... R Johnson 10-3313 TOO SHARP (20) (IA) (EF) Mass H Knight 8:11 4 ____ F Titley (20246 ARCHIC LIFE (82) I Reviews 7:11 2 ______ A P McCoy 3 020246 ARCHE LIFE (32) J Jenims 7 11 2 _____ A P McCoy
4 P581/12 PONTDON BREDGE (25) (8F) G Harvood 9 11 2.R Desimondy 000630 SOUND FORECAST (6) Mrs S Johnson S 11 2...... D White (3)

OOU THE WAYNAMD DISHOP (11) Mrs L Taylor 7 11 2 S Mandall DO SONSWARK (25) P Westvary 6 10 11.....

- 7 declared -

BETTING: 5-4 Sounds Strong, 3-1 Too Strarp, 9-2 Arctic Life, 6-1 Posts Bridge, 10-1 Sound Forecast, 25-1 The Wayward Bishop, Soundara

8.15 WASPERTON HILL NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 4f

| | | | 110yds |
|---|-----|----------|--|
| | 1 | 22211F- | FROM PROF (337) P Bowen 10 11 13 |
| | 2 | 645342 | MAJEOOR YAROOZ (8) J Bosley 6 11 8 M Bosley V |
| | 3 | | STONECTOP (295) J White 5 11, 7 |
| | 4 | | MINNESOTA PATS (119) Mass M. Rowland 4 11, Q., Carry Lyone |
| | 5 | | ROMALITO (58) N. (Banshari & 10 13 & Michael & |
| | 6 | | CASSIO'S BOY (8) (D) R Existy 5 10 12 |
| | 7 | 204463 | ANDIARTICIERA (26) G Clarayo 6 10 11, |
| | В | 0-436P6 | WRITER ROSE (11) M Sheppard 5 10 7 B Proposit |
| 1 | 9 | 5-14014 | TELMAR SYSTEMS (174) J White 7 10 4 |
| | W) | 0600 | PRINTERS (45) F Jordan 4 10 1 Lodder |
| | IJ. | 06-POP | BIT OF ROUGH (71) Mas H Knight 6 10 0 6 F Ryan (5) |
| | 12 | P0U/3-P6 | SOSSYMIOSS (46) A Streets 7 10 0 T Buy |
| | 13 | DPOF | FINE IDEA (96) 7 Casey 7 10 0 |
| | [4 | 400-000 | MARRIERS COVE (24) C Erent 8 10 0W Marston |
| | 15 | 480) P | THE SECRET SEMEN (26) I Cressuel 6 10 0 R Messey (5) |
| | | | |

Minimum welshi: 10st. True handican welshis: Bit Of Rough Sat GR, Bloss moss Set Sib, Fine Idea Set 20. Martiners Cove Set 13th, The Secret Seven Ast

SETTING 11-4 Majhour Yalber, 9-2 Winter Rose, 6-1 Stonecrop, 7-1 Romalito, 10-1 Final Pricto, Peutotre, Astartictore, 12-1 others.

RACING'S GREATEST DAILY **PUBLISHED** TOMORROW SUNDAY

The Sporting Life

Ten matches that forged the championship

FALTERING START FOR MANCHESTER

Newcastle 3 Coventry 0

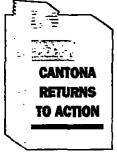
Opening day, the only day of the season when everyone can dream. Except at Old Trafford where optimism is in short supply. After the sum-mer sales of Paul Ince, Andrei Kanchelskis and Mark Hughes there is discontent in the air and some supporters even suggest Alex Ferguson

should go.
The mood deepens when, 45 minutes into the new season, Manchester United are three down to an Aston . iiia side fresh from narrowly escaping relegation.
The visitors are unrecog-

nisable, and not just because they are wearing grey. They are also fielding a number of teenagers and playing the in-vogue five at the back. At half-time Ferguson bins

the new formation (the kit is to last a few months longer). They pull back a goal and, more importantly, recover

On Tyneside pre-season prayers are gloriously realised. Suggestions that Les Ferdinand and the rest of Kevin Keegan's £14m investment may take time to settle look foolish as Newcastle win handsomely. Ferdinand opens his account with the well-taken third.



Everton 1 Newcastle 3 Man Utd 2 Liverpool 2

Ferdinand, having continued to score through September. notches his 10th goal in nine games as Newcastle go four points clear with a win at Goodison. It is their third away win in four attempts, no signs of travel sickness so far.

But they are overshadowed by events at Old Trafford a tona makes his long-awaited and seems about to be up-

him, they are unable to overturn a shock 3-0 home defeat by York City in the Coca-Cola Cup, York will end the season fighting relegation to the Third Division.







Key moments (from top left, clockwise): Manchester United lose at Aston Villa on the opening day; Eric Cantona celebrates his winner for United against Liverpool on his return in October, Stan Collymore fires Liverpool's late winner in a 4-3 win over Newcastle last month; and Kevin Keegan loses his cool at Leeds earlier this week



Man Utd 2 Newcastie 0

As autumn has turned to winter Newcastle have gone from gliding through away games to grinding them out but they still arrive at Old Trafford beaten twice in 23 games and with a 10point lead. Ruel Fox has gone, to Spurs, but Philippe Albert is

Manchester United have return. He has a quiet match shone at Chelsea, where Newcastle lost, but gone down at Arstaged by Robbie Fowler's senal and Anfield. The stunning brace when he coully youngsters are showing signs of converts a controversial strain and Alan Hansen's aspenalty.

In Cantona's absence
Manchester United have re
Manchester United have re
Yet Newcastle are brushed

Yet Newcastle are brushed

covered well from the open- aside, with Roy Keane outing day débacle but, even with standing. He scores the second, having been beautifully picked out by the emerging Phil Neville. The first is a rare goal

from Andy Cole. Cole's goal, driven in on the run, is part of a four-game scoring streak – otherwise he fails to

strike even in consecutive

League matches. Newcastle's gloom is deepened when the Keith Gillespie ruptures a thigh

The circus came to town but the lions and tigers did not turn up," Keegan said. "You have to earn the right to be champions," said Ferguson, firing the first shot of the psychological battle.

The odds still favour Keegan, the last six New Year's Eve leaders have become champions and, when Manchester United go down 4-1 at Spurs on New Years' Day, it looks as if Newcastle will be the seventh.



Newcastle 2 Bolton 1

Newcastle's 1996 has started badly. They have gone out of the FA Cup on penalties to Chelsea at St James' Park, and were heaten in the Coca-Cola Cup by

police had to intervene in a conviction and alleged ex-porn touchline row between Terry model girlfriend fill the tabloids McDermott and Bruce Rioch. However, as the pundits say,

it does leave them free to concentrate on the League and victory over Bolton secures a 12-point lead with 15 games left. Manchester United play on

Monday and gain three points at West Ham. Cantona is regaining form and fitness but he impresses by acting as peacemaker after Julian Dicks' foul on Andy Cole starts a row. Butt is sent off.



Man Utd 1 Blackburn 0 Middlesbrough 1 Newcastie 2

Newcastle have not lost in the League since Old Trafford but Keegan is not convinced. He wants to make sure and, after weeks of "Will he? Won't he?" signs Faustino Asprilla for Arsenal in a fractious tie at £7.5m. No doubts about his Highbury. David Ginola was ability, just his temperament. come Manchester United Two days later Newcastle resent off for retaliation and While stories about his gun backed by the record: played 13, spond in style, ripping West Old Trafford's pre-season. For

the broadsheets ask, how will he

The answer seems to be "perfeetly". He goes from the support arrivals to the sull lines bench before coming on and winning a derby Newcastle seemed about to lose. Manchester United's dull win is notable only for underlining the decline of the current champions.



By being beaten at West Ham, and held at Manchester City (litcrally, in the case of Asprilla who takes exception to Keith Curle's grappling). Newcastle have seen the lead cut to four points.

But, however worrying their struggles on the road they have been able to count on maximum points at home and they wel-

Asprilla is untouchable as he creates chance after chance for Ferdmand. Peter Schmeichel saves them all and, as Newcastle's hurricane blows itself out Cantona sneaks in at his favourite far post to steal the winner. The result also opens

confident after winning eight

straight but are subjected to a

tunning barrage of pressure.

won 13. The visitors are equally Ham apart to regain the lead

Asprilla is in rich form but, not

for the first time, chances go

3 Арт

Liverpool 4 Newcastle 3

HEARTBREAK

anfield

The game of the season, and per-

haps the one that breaks New-

castle. While Manchester United

pause for breath, having sealed

a place in the FA Cup final, their

Liverpool lead inside two

Newcastle take up the gauntlet,

responding through Ferdinand

and Ginola. Fowler levels, but

Asprilla restores the lead. New-

castle have chances to seal it but

waste them. Stan Collymore

then scores twice, the second in injury time, to win it for the

Reds - both of them.

rivals go head-to-head.

ended Villa's challenge, and underlined their own, with an eight-minute demolition the

previous day.



QPR 1 Man Utd 1

Manchester United finally catch up with Newcastle. It takes a very late goal from - who else? - Cantona and a generous measure of

injury time to do it.

chester United's to lose, as well as Newcastle's.



Southampton 3 Man Utd 1

With the spotlight on them Manchester United wither in its glare. Call it superstition or call it, as United try to, a technical problem with picking each other out. Whatever, the half-time shirtchange at The Dell speaks as loudly as the grey perfor-mance about the strain of

The following day New-castle, who had suffered Easter heartbreak when Graham Fenton stole three points from his heroes at Blackburn, edge past Villa and the race is on again. Liverpool, having lost a

Coventry, have finally bowed



Leeds United 0 Newcastie United 1.

Manchester United have de molished Nottingham Forest, Ferguson finally biting the bullet and dropping Cole. The five-goal reward has put their goal difference beyond reach and the pressure back

on Newcastle. The players cope with it, aided by the belated return to the ranks of Gillespie and Lady Luck, but the manager does not. After his team have beaten a hyped-up Leeds Keegan explodes on television. With moist eyes and jabbing finger he accuses Ferguson, not without justification, of doing the hyping. His players, depending on their nature, think "good on yer, boss" or "oh God, the gatter's lost it.

Ferguson himself falls silent, the job done.

minutes through Fowler but

Newcastle were held 1-1 by another pumped-up team, Nottingham Forest. A bad result, but, generally, not a bad performance.

This is of little consolation to them, Keegan or the Toon Army whose 10-month odyssey now looks like ending in failure. However, after such a sea-It is Keegan's turn to be questioned. Dissenting voices

son as this, few would suggest there might not be another twist in the title tale.

Howard doing it the wrong way

Third Division

ENDSLEIGH LEAGUE TABLES

Second Division

CPLN

GM Vauxhall Conference

In the first half of their European Cup tie against Rangers at Ibrox in the autumn of 1992. Leeds' captain, Gordon Stra-chan, scored a sweet goal from a move too quick for a linesman who wrongly called it offside. The goal would have put Leeds 2-0 up with the return leg at Elland Road to come. It was quite possibly a pivotal moment. If Leeds had extended that European Cup run, perhaps Howard Wilkinson would have retained a little longer the services of a certain Frenchman. Whatever the silverware heading for Old Trafford this season, Manchester United fans know that once again they must thank Howard Wilkinson for

their player of the year, if not the decade. Perhaps no one other than the inspirational Wilkinson could have brought the League championship back to Elland Road just three and a half years after taking over in the basement of the old Second Division, but then only the idiosyncratic York- he destroyed their imagination, shireman would have committed the transfer blunder of the generation. Eric Cantona was the last piece of the jigsaw that excuse that he and Eric had difmade Leeds an awesome, thrilling attacking force.

Here was Currie, Giles, how Howard has completely clarke and Gray rolled into missed the point by confusing his one. The ultimate Leeds play- philosophical niceties with the

FAN'S EYE VIEW No 148

Leeds United Giles Dexter

er - highly skilled but capable of looking after himself. The embodiment of all the virtues of the Don Revie version of total football.

love affair with the Leeds fans who first recognised his genius. It was the Leeds supporters who coined the chant "Ooh, aah Cantona" and made it into a record, and to them that Eric declared from the balcony of Leeds' Town Hall, championship trophy in hand, "I love you. I don't know why, but I love you." When Wilkinson sent the Frenchman to Manchester, he not only robbed his side of its best player, he broke the Leeds supporters' hearts. At a stroke, their dream, the belief that they would see the promised land. Wilkinson has offered the fering philosophics on life. This observation simply illustrates

business of running a football

Perhaps winning the title so soon after taking charge led Wilkinson to believe that he could do no wrong, but he to-tally failed to build on that suc-Let us not forget the intensity and passion of Cantona's cess. Wilkinson's failure to

acquire a high quality central defensive pairing has been the cause of many of his recent troubles. Where other sides have invested heavily Leeds have tried to defend on the cheap. The centre of defence this season has been based around David Wetherall, Paul Beesley. John Pemberton and Lucas Radebe who did not cost £1m between them - and it shows.

The Cantona débâcle apart, Wilkinson's activity in the transfer market has been very pending departure of the demoralised Brolin, while Tony frequent and frequently bizarre. His deals remind one of a parsimonious housewife, always on the lookout for bargains past their sell-by date. Having found Strachan for a song, there has since been an endless quest for another thirty-something bargain.

match banner read "We've got rid of the Crown Jewel, now let's get rid of the Silver". David Batty, Noel Whelan and Eric Cantona were sold for a grand total of £5.7m, while Cariton Palmer, Brian Deane and Tomas Brolin

cost £10m between them. How far Leeds have backpeddled in the last few seasons was illustrated in the week that saw them totally outplayed at Antield in the FA Cup and all but humiliated in the Coca-Cola Cup final. The cup runs were achieved almost entirely against lower-division opposition.

The thrilling team of a few seasons ago is now just a memory. The tragedy of the Wilkin-son era is that having created a side capable of sizzling football, he and the board proceeded to dismantle it. Wilkinson's man management deficiencies will soon de-

prive Leeds of another world-class player with the im-Yeboah has understandably declared he has no wish to continue his career at a "nobody" club like Leeds. Cantona famously boasted to Wilkinson that he could win him championships. Howard was alone in not believing him. Perhaps

Arsenal v Bolton

are heard on Tyneside, echoing the short-sighted doubters of

Top-scorer lan Wright, who missed the midweek stalemate against Liverpool with a back injury, is not Liverpool with a back injury, is not likely to be fit to fielp Arsenal seek the victory that would seal a Uefa. Cup blace. Defender Adams is also ruled out. Bottom, already relegated, have striker Blake available after suspension, while goal-feeper Branagan, full-back Small and Sumetr are in contention. Chelsea v Blackburn

England Under-21 defender Dubeny, suspended for last week's draw with Tottenham, will have a fitness test but otherwise Hoddle has a full strength squad for his final match as Chelsea manager. Blackburn's Norwegian midfielder Bohinan (call strain) is in line for his first Premiership match in three months. Coleman (leg) is fit after missing last week's draw with Ar-senal but Newell (hamstring) is

Coventry v Leeds Richardson (knee) and Paul Williams (calf) are doubtful for Coventry, who welcome back demay face his former club. Leeds, may race his former club. Leeds, aiming to avoid a club record severith successive defear, will be without the injured Ford, Speed, Dorigo, Deane, Pemberton, Johnson, Brolin and Veboesh are injured-but goalkeeper Beeney (barl) is available again.

Everton v Aston Villa Southgate (knee ligament) returns from a six-week lay-off, but Johnson is banned and Taylor injured but Yorke is fit after missing last weekend's home defeat by Mainchester City. Everton welcome back Home and Hincholiffe (bans) and Parkinson is ht again. Man City v Liverpool ...

City are unchanged after lest weekend's victory at Ville Park. Lampard is on stand-by.

TEAM NEWS

Middlesbrough v Man Util England Under 21 midfielder Mustoe (knee) returns for Middles-brough but injured due Hendrie and Fleming are both ruled out. United are expected to keep the team that beat Nottingham Forest 5-0. Bruce (harnstring) is fit

third start in a week following a seven-month lay-off with groin trouble in an unchanged line-up as Spurs pursue a place in the Uefa Cup. Newcastle, needing to win to keep their title hopes alive, are also likely to be unchanged with Asprilla on the bench-Nottingham Forest v QPR

Anderton is expected to make his

Forest expect to be unchanged after holding Newcastle to a 1-1 draw on Thursday Impey (ban) misses QPI26 between to the up flight after 12 years in the top flight. The less of the squad are available.

Venison (bith) returns to lead Southernition's attempt to escape relegator. He will replace Mad-dison, or Widdrington, Winger Walters is suspended. Norwegan Leonhardsen (ankle) may return for a Wimbledon return after a month on the sidelines, possibly as a replacement for captain

West Ham v Sheff Wed Wednesday welcome back de-fender Newsome (ban). Manag-er Pleat is likely to keep faith with

goalkeeper Pressman despite criticism of his display last week. Hammers, who give tests to midfielders Moncur and Bishop, while

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Rusedski has to work for victory

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JOHN ROBERTS reports from Newcastle

Greg Rusedski gave Britain a winning start against Slovenia in their Euro-African zone Group Two tie here yesterday, but it was hard work for both the Canadian-born power server and the spectators.
Rusedski defeated the 21-

year-old Borut Urh, ranked 420 places below him at No 478, in four sets, having looked as if he would make short work of the No 2 player from a Balkan republic with a population of only 1.97 million. The score, 6-1, 6-4, 6-7, 6-3 illustrates the way the match began to swing

away from Rusedski's control. After a smooth beginning when the Brit appeared to use the surrounds as a shooting gallery. Ball boys and line judges were forced to dive for cover to avoid being belted by

Rusedski's mighty serves. This went on for the best part of an hour and a half, during which Urh was barely able to cope. The Slovenian, however, gradually gained confidence in the third set, bolstered by his opponent's numerous errors, par-ticularly on the backhand, which was a constant source of frustration for Rusedski.

After saving a break point in the opening game of the set, Urh proceeded to match Rusedski almost shot for shot. And al-

only six points off his serve and brought his total of aces to 18 his game seized up in the tie-break. Rusedski failed to win a point

in the shoot-out, which began with his dumping a backhand into the net with an agonised shout of "hit it"!

Rusedski's fifth double-fault of the match presented Ulm with six set points, and he gleefully took the first of them, hauling himself back into the contest with a backhand half-volley. Rusedski created a break-

point in the second game of the fourth set, but Urb swiftly served it out of his grasp. Another opportunity came Rusedski's way in the sixth game when he foxed his opponent with a forehand lob, only to squander the chance by netting another backhand.

There were two further deuces in the game before Rusedski netted a service return. Irritated, perhaps, with his inability to break through, Rusedski thundered down another ace in the next game.

Urh finally cracked in the eighth game. He saved one break point which Rusedski had crafted with a superb topspin lob but then doublefaulted to offer the chance of a second. Rusedski made no mistake this time, passing his opponent with a forehand down the line and releasing a roar of

The job was still not quite complete. Indeed Rusedski found himself 0-40 down and it was at this stage of the pro-



Greg Rusedski plays a forehand volley in his four-set defeat of Borut Urh yesterday

ceedings when Rusedski was seen at his best. He produced an ace to save the first break point. a forehand volley to whisk away the second and a service winner to bring the score to dence.

baseline to give Rusedski a time he misdirected a fore-glimpse of a match point. A hand volley. The backhand let glimpse was all it was. Ruseds-ki volleyed a forehand over the match point and when he hit yet

The Slovenian then hit a baseline to lose it. An ace gave forehand service return over the bim a second chance, but this hand volley. The backhand let

cerned. A trademark ace - his 26th - clinched the match.

Photograph: David Ashdowr

another ace the spectators held their breath to see what would happen on match point four They need not have been con-

Quinnell set to make union switch convert to switch back while still

Rugby League DAVE HADFIELD

Wigan yesterday sounded re-signed to losing their Welsh forward, Scott Quinnell, to Richmond, after the union club made him "an offer he can't

The 23-year-old dual international, who joined Wigan on a four-year contract worth a basic £50,000 a season in September 1994, is expected to join Richmond at the end of this Super League season. The Wigan chairman, Jack Robinson, confirmed Richmond's approach and said that the offer to the player, thought to be around £300,000 over three years, would double his earn-ings. "We really cannot match such financial power, whilst Scott has an offer he probably can't refuse," he said.

Wigan's straitened finances have seen them fail to retain a string of leading players over the last two years and others, like the Test prop. Kelvin Skerrett, would leave for the right offer.

"Our first team squad is thin already," Graeme West, their coach, said. This is another frustrating piece of news. We really can't afford to lose any more players. The ones that have already left haven't been replaced.

The question of a fee for Quinnell, a major success in league after a tentative start, has still to be addressed. His move back to union, however, would mark a shift in the relationship between the two codes of rugby. Although players like Jonathan Davies and Adrian Hadley have returned to union and David Young is due to do

so at the end of this season,

Quinnell would be the first

in his prime.

Richmond are also thought to be pursuing a deal to take Leeds' former Bath winger, Jim Fallon, back to the 15-a-side

Meanwhile, Quinnell will play for Wigan against Paris St Germain tomorrow, although Skerrett, Neil Cowie and Martin Offiah are all doubtful and face fitness tests today.

Much of the interest elsewhere will centre on how St Helens and the Bradford Buils get back into their stride after last Saturday's classic Silk Cut Challenge Cup final at Wembley.

Super League leaders Saints are at home to Oldham, with the Cup-tied Australian, Derck McVey, coming into their pack to replace the injured Andy Northey. Oldham, the surprise side of the competition so far, are without the suspended Scott Ranson and Jason Temu and, more damagingly still, their injured captain, Martin Crompton.

The Bulls have been a magnet for sympathy and praise af-ter their efforts in the final, but the fact remains that they have now lost their last three games and badly need a win over Warrington this afternoon. They are without a Wembley casualty. Sonny Nickle being ruled out with a dislocated shoulder, but have the Cun-tied James Lowes

and Steve McNamara back. Bradford have denied rumours that their captain and Wembley Lance Todd Trophy winner, Robbie Paul, is to join his brother, Henry, at Wigan.

Leeds have their captain. Neil Harmon, back in their starting line-up and Carl Hall on the bench against the London Broncos, with Marcus Vassilakopoulos preferred to Mick Shaw at hooker.

Bond finds Hendry in premium form again

Gascoigne and Judge insists Tyson Last chance to impress

Hockey

BILL COLWILL

Snooker

GUY HODGSON reports from Sheffield

Ask a snooker player what he fears most and the No 1 answer would be snapping his cue. Not far down the list, however, would be meeting Stephen Hendry at The Crucible. The man is dangerous anywhere but here he would make the non-heel bits of

Achilles look vulnerable.

fellow sinners

given day off

Paul Gascoigne may have col-lected both the players' and football writers' footballer of the

year awards in Scotland, but he

would revert to his alternative

role of buffoon if he was to pick

up a yellow card in the Premier

Division at Kilmarnock today

To make absolutely sure he

cannot have a brush with any-

thing so daft, and with the

club's eighth successive league

title already under lock and key.

Rangers' manager, Walter

Smith, is resting Gascoigne,

Richard Gough, Andy Goram.

Gordan Petric, John Brown and Alex Cleland for the trip to

and miss next weekend's Ten-

nents Scottish Cup final.

and yesterday he made it look likely that he would push that first figure to 24 by taking a 10-4 lead in the semi-finals of the Embassy World Championship. His opponent, Nigel Bond, might make a comeback; Margaret Thatcher might become

leader of the Labour Party.

Lennox Lewis's hopes of fight-

ing Mike Tyson for the World

Boxing Council heavyweight

championship received a sig-

nificant boost with a New Jer-

sey judge's confirmation that

anyone else.

Tyson must meet Lewis before

Superior Court Judge Amos

Saunders turned down a request

from the World Boxing Asso-

ciation champion, Bruce Sel-

don, to allow him to fight Tyson

since the Scot was beaten here even before he began his match with Bond he had being playing so badly he had recorded eight centuries. As the record for the whole tournament is 12 (held by Hendry) you can gauge the depths he had plumbed.

Which would be intimidating enough for anyone but Bond has more reason than most to Hendry, himself, admits he count the scars because he has has been below his best so far been beaten by Hendry in the but the five-times champion off last three championships, twice colour would look like the pic- in the quarter-finals and last ture of health in anyone else and year in the final. Yesterday he knocking off a quick 77 - but it 12th frame but any hope he had

quickly," Frank Maloney,

non-title fight on Friday against

Ray Mercer, and Maloney in-

sist there will be no deal with

King to allow Tyson to fight Sel-

Lewis to step aside or make a

deal with Don King unless it is

Mike Tyson coming out of the other corner," Maloney said.

"By me stepping aside, they may come up with some plan of an attack that may cause me not

to be able to face Mike Tyson

in the ring," Lewis said. "I

"I would not advise Lennox

Lewis, who is training for a

Lewis' manager, said.

don first.

had the misfortune to run into was the third that inflicted the him just when he found his ruthless streak for the first time. Only seven frames were

played yesterday, which was an act of kindness by the sched-uler's part because Bond had the look of a man who had taken too much punishment by the end. Hendry took six of the seven and the wonder was how he managed to miss out on the other. The first frame set the tone -

Bond missing a black, Hendry

Great Britain's men play their

hosts, Malaysia, in their open-

ing game in the Six Nations Sul-

tan Azian Shah Cup in Ipoh this morning in the knowledge that their coach, David Whitaker, in-

tends to announce his Olympic

While most of the squad will

have aiready done enough to

confirm their places, the tour-

nament provides a final chance

for the three players who have

come into the reckoning after

last month's Atlanta tourna-

ment - the relative newcomers

Danny Hall and Howard

Hoskin, and Phil McGuire, who

is returning to the internation-

al scene after nearly a year out

squad on his return.

sort of reverse that shatters a player's confidence. Bond led 62-0 with a break of 61 and appeared to have arrested a flow that had seen his opponent go from 3-1 down to 6-3 ahead.

Another black rattling in the jaws of a corner pocket let Hendry in, however, and it was almost cruel to watch as he more than £5.4m and ensures cleared the table to take the frame with a break of 64. Bond managed to stem the flow in the

The absence of Simon Hazlitt

with a hamstring injury gives Soma Singh another chance to

stake his claim as the cover de-

fender with McGuire also in

contention. Assuming that leav-

ing corner specialist Calum

Giles behind is nothing more

than a tactical decision, de-

scribed by Whitaker as "to keep

our main powder keg dry", then the last place would seem to be between Hall, Hoskin and

19-year-old Mark Pearn who

125 years with an international

veterans tournament at their

Broom Road grounds where the

Olympic gold medallist Sean

Kerly is set to make his first vet-

eran's appearance for Richmond. Overseas visitors are

Klein Zwitzerland from The

Hague, Harvestehuder, from

Teddington celebrate their

was in Atlanta.

of reining Hendry in vanished with breaks of 76 and 71 in the final two frames of the day. Imperial Tobacco, who have sponsored the World Snooker Championship through their Embassy brand since 1976, have agreed to back the event until the year 2000. The four-year deal guarantees prize money of that the event will remain at The Crucible.

Hamburg, and from Dublin. Three Rock Rovers.

Championship take centre stage today and tomorrow at the Mil-

ton Keynes Stadium with the fi-

nals of the Under 14, 16 and 18's

Youth Cups on Monday. The women's AEWHA Cup

semi-finals take place tomor-row. Chelmsford, at home to

Clifton, could be without Lynn

Bollington while Clifton may be

missing their captain, Tammy

Miller, just back with Great

ing a calf injury. In the second

all-Premier game, Doncaster

entertain Ipswich.

Britain from Atlanta but carry

The final stages of the County

Howell exploits some tough conditions

David Howell, the former Walker Cup golfer from Swindon. completed his first round in a five-under-par 66 despite suffering from a wrist injury in the Italian Open in Bergamo yes-

terday. Howell, 20, is now in joint second with Italy's Costantino Rocca and Sweden's Patrik Sjoland, one stroke behind the leader Gary Evans, who shot a 65 before a thunderstorm and heavy rain caused play to be abandoned the day before. At that time Howell had played 12 boles in two under par and had hit his approach five feet from

the flag on the 13th green. Yesterday he immediately holed the five-footer for a hirdie three and had two more birdies. at the 16th and 17th, to finish in 66, just before another thundetstorm followed by rain, halted play for more than two

Weather permitting, the second round will be played today, and only the top 50 players, in-stead of the usual 65, and those tied for 50th place, will play the last two rounds tomorrow.

GREAT ENTRIN SQUAD: S Mason, J Wy-att, H Hoslon (Reading), D Lucius (East Grinsted), J Lusius (East, P McGuire (Ed-driggor), Some Singh, J Shaer (Southgate), J Halls, N Thompson (Old Loughtonians), D Hall (Guidhro), R Gercia (Pob Berciona), C Mayer, Kalbir Takher (Carnock), R Thompson, G Fordham (Hounslow). Howell is a little concerned at having to play three rounds tomorrow's cut. "I've a strained er to be just one over.

tendon in my right wrist," he said. "And it hurts on the followthrough but the worst pain is on my backswing - if 1 m too quick." The promising Howell made

it on to the European Tour through the qualifying school last November and has been joint eighth twice and joint 12th once in the eight tournaments he has competed in. In the second round of the

Welsh Women's Open in St Pierre, Chepstow, yesterday. Lisa Hackney showed the ben-efits of a winter spent training in Florida by taking an early Hackney, who ended last season with a Tour-best third

place in the Spanish Open. added a 75 to her opening 73 and that was good enough to set the target for the rest of the field as blustery conditions caused problems. The 28-year-old finished her

round just as the overnight leaders, Lora Fairclough and Caroline Hall were setting out

Both resumed with bogey sixes to slip back to level par as Stephanie Dallongeville, of France, the only other player to break par yesterday, went to the turn in 40 and needed birdies in two days, assuming he makes at the 12th and 15th to recov-

Rugby Park. All of them are only one booking away from being banned for the Cup final. UOTES OF THE

Things which have been said over the last few days have been almost slanderous, I think you have to send a tape of the game to Alex Ferguson, Isn't that (the Leeds performance] what he wants. Kevin Keegan. the Newcastle manager, gets very emotional after the United manager cast doubt on the commitment of Leeds for the match against

Newcastle. 1 think I would love it if we could beat them. He's [Ferguson] gone down a lot in my estimation. Kee-

I don't know how i did it but I did. I've had 14 operations so I deserve this more than anyone. Paul Gascoigne celebrates Rangers' Scottish title win. an convinced the England selectors do not know Kept are a first-class County Graham Cowdrey on the tack of Kent players in the England set-up.

in a unification contest in July, and in so doing reaffirmed his injunction of 15 March prewould love to take this out of venting Tyson from fighting the courtroom and into the ring. It is quite clear Tyson is deathly afraid of Lennox Lewis." anyone but Lewis. "I would think Don King will be getting in touch with us very

Newton gets his timing right

fights Lewis next

The Olympic hopeful Chris Newton pulled on the yellow jersey for the fifth time this year after winning the time-trial stage of the Thwaites Grand Prix near Preston, writes Robin Nicholl. He averaged 22mph over a 33mile course, finishing 13 seconds ahead of Jon Clay, the 1992 winner of this five-day race through

Lancashire and Cumbria. Newton deposed his team-

day 15 seconds in arrears. Nev ton's speed against the clock has given him the lead four times previously in races as far apart as Malaysia and Scotland, and he said yesterday: "I hope I can hang on to this one. Our tear is now pulling together bet at than in the previous race ...nen I was our only man in contention, so there is every chance.

"I was sure I could produce something in the time trial and even if it means defending the mate, Paul Jennings, from his jersey for the rest of the race, I overnight lead after starting the just had to go for it."

Cadle cool on rule change

The fans who watch this weekend's Budweiser League playoffs at Wembley Arena when London Towers play Manches-ter Giants and Sheffield Sharks face Birmingham Bullets, may be seeing English players such as Steve Bucknall, Martin Henlan, Trevor Gordon and Roger Huggins for the last time, writes

Duncan Hooper. The league's decision to allow five foreigners per team next season instead of two, could force the better English players to join Continental clubs as English teams spend their money on imports. At least two chibs, London Leopards and Chester Jets are lining up five Americans each for next season.

This is a route that Towers' coach, Kevin Cadle, will not be following. Cadle, whose players are poised to complete a clean sweep of all four domestic trophies, said: "Most English clubs can't recruit two good Amerithey'll suddenly find five?"

Athletics Razelistan's world 100 metres hundles silver medallist, Olga Shishigina, has been banned for four years pending a hearing after testing positive for the stanoid stanozolol at an indoor meet-inal of these Bolles have been

with a back injury.

Austrailan Rules AFI both round: North Melbourne 15.14 11"-In to Geology 13.15 (53); Sydney Swens 14.6 at. wew with Essendon 12.18 (90).

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Toronto 7 Milwaukee 5; Carlomia 3 Oakland 1; Detroit 5 Texas 2; New York Yankees 5 Chicago White Sox 1, NATROMAL LEAGUE: Philadelphie 2 Florida 0.

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Cycling
THAMTES GRAND PROCTOUR OF LANCASHRE
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2.C Newton (North Wintl-Konik) Sona: 2 J City
(68 Mountain Blees) +13 sec. 3 M Poste (Sepin
Breng-Dusgoel) +17; 4 P Carran (OptimumPowgitai) +21; 5 R Hayles (Ambase-Cyrtorenta)
+24; 6 P Manning (Daring-Cit) +27. Owerall
stendings: 1 Newton 1hr 36 min 33 sec; 2 Cay
+130er; 3 Poste +17; 4 Carran +21; 5 Hayles
+24; 6 M Walsham (Git Alt-Peugeot) +26.
US YOUR DUPONT Second stage (Proderisdeburg to Richmond, 151km, 93.8 mile;
11 Amstrong (18) 3th 32min Sec; 2 G Magmason (Sec) 332.0g; 3 M Effect (26); 4 M
Wast (Gent; 5 A Bers (br.) 8 1 Yan Bon (Ment);
7 1-C Robin (Fr); 8 B Smith (16); 9 T Romager
(9mi); 10 J Romatine (15) oil same time. Leading overall standings (includes time bonusage: 1 Amstrong (18) 3mm Stock; 2 Magnuson
+5 ec; 3 Effort +7 sec; 4 F Colorus (b)
+3 sec; 5 M Wast (Gen) +10 ec;

Football Stuart Naylor, West Bromwich Albion's 33-yesr-old former England 8 goelkeeper and the club's longest-serving player, has been released on a free transfer after 10 years at The Hawthorns.

SPORTING DIGEST

Howard Kendall's success in steering Sheffield United from the relegation zone to the fittings of the play-offs was recognised yesterday when he was named Endsleigh firsurance League Risst Division manager of the month. Steve McMahon, manager of Swindon, won the Second Division award after taking his team to the championship and Graham Tumer, the former Wolves manager, is the Third Division manager of the month after guiding his side into the playoffs. into the play-offs.

Don Goodman, the Wolves striker, could be out for up to 12 months with the fractured skull he suffered against Huddersfield last weekend. Faith Tenrin, the Turkish national manager, said yesterday he would resign after next month's European Championship, rasing his dranoss of taking over from Graeme Sounces as manager of Editors City 6 Columbus 4.

REPUBLIC OF (RELAND UNDER-21 SQUAD (V. MONNY), DENGINGA, 30 May); Murphy (Min-Morrani, Drugiada, 30 May); Murphy (Min-bedon, Dempany (Bohemans, Worsell (Book-turn), Coll (Barnmouth), Harto (Ledd), Maybor (Ledd), Carely (Muhich), Mahou (Szirmere), Mi-

> TODAY'S NUMBER

> > 4.8

The measurement on the Richter scale of the small-tomoderate earthquake that forced the suspension of the baseball game between the Seattle Mariners and the Cleveland Indians at the Seattle Kingdome on Thursday night.

Hawidana (Coverny), Bones (Notangium Foresti, Scolly (Episte Peiscol), Plantan (Simmigram). THURSDAY'S LUTE RESELTS: FA Carling Pre-mierable: Leos. 1 Touterhorn 3: Notan Forest 1 Nessociate 1. Gelf Vinaded Conference: Geoclesfed 1 Stough 1: Northwork 6: Kettering 2: Idea Langua Premier Division: Condesson 3 Agiest Lungua Premier Division: Condesson 3 Agiest Lungua Premier Division: Condesson 3 Agiest Lungua Premier Division: Sollar September 2: Uniform Lury 1. First Oivision: Third September 2: Uniform Lungua Premier Division: Boston Usis Gustellungua Premier Division: Boston Usis Gustellungua Premier Division: Boston Usis South Conference Con 1 February 2: Lungua Premier Division: November 1 Delivision: November 1 Delivision

Laura Davies, the world No 1, shot an opening two-under-par 70 to lie three shots behind Val Skinner, who is leading, in the Sprint Toleholders Chempitalist in the Sprint Tol

ing, in the Sprint Titleholders Chemp-onship in Deytona Beach, Florida.

NOUSTON OPEN Landing first-round course.
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CONTE OF FLOREINGE TRALIAM OPEN Leveling first-round source (Berginson Golf Cute,
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Gasse; D. Robertson; S Cage: M Moutand; P A Croce (II): 1 Missterood, 69 F Valora (Spr.) in Gasse, D Robertson; S Cage: M Moutaind, P Haugsrud (Not): C Halt, B Lance, R Rofferb; P Curry, D A Rusself, R Coles; M Hotelant, 70 E Grisus (Fr); I Printo (Sp): M Genrhard (Swe); A Collant, S Locatell (II); Q Orr, I Payre; A Shehome: M Zerman (II), 71. J Rivero (Sp); S Torrance; A Medinak (Swe); D Cooper; T Lance (Fr); D Choppa (Swe); S Field: C Sureson (Sp); J McHenny; P Esses; S Luna (Se); J Hasgman (Swe); P Beachurs; J Spency; P Affect; P Quarterson

C: (Sud): J Widenor (US): G Chairners (Aus): S Training (Deny: R Murtz: (Nieth): 72 S Grappesorns (II); W Westner (SA); D Huggins: M Lanner Swol; M Gotters (UP) Pharmigen; A Colleon; A Lobour (Fri: D Gillor); M Jinnenst (SO); M Bestnerss (Try: D Gillor); M Jinnenst (SO); M Bestnerss (Try: D Gillor); M Jinnenst (SO); M Pedellor (Swel); G Colleon; M Jinnenst (SN); D Hedblorn (Swel); G Longest (M Libon); A Hansen (Den); M Hallberg (Swel); J Townsend (US): D Westners; T Gogale (Ged); S Webston; G Pysilt C Post (Den); T Price Austi; S Gollacter; M Marchot (SN); B (Swel); M Copyron (Aus); P Cerrore (Q).

HOMMA WYTHOTOMAL TOURDAMENT (Physica,

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**P Terrors (ig. **)
**HONDA INVIDENTIONAL TOURISHANDAY (Product. Thouland.) Lineding final-mound scores: 65 P Power (Jus.): J. Midde Singh (not). The Chr-hang (Jus.): 5 Gwen (MZ): 5 Hégid (Japan); 10 Duargochts (Thin): M Yamasoo (Japan); 10 Duargochts (Thin): M Yamasoo (Japan). 70 A Bonhomme (Jus.): 7 Cass (Phi): U Wen-Hearg (To): M Manugeh (Singh): Zhang Larg Wei (Chire); 72 J. Kernohan (US): 5 Teylor (US): § Elegan (Aus): Amusy Homchan (Thai): Lal Ying-Juh (Tai): P Moore (US): P Manksoong (Thai): 0 Fung (HS): L Barber (US).

ice hockey NWL STANLEY CUP Second-round play-offs: Eastern Conference sent-finals: Florida 2 Philodelphia (Florida bed) best of-seen sentes 1-01. Western Conference sent-finals: Circa-go 3 Colorado 2 (atr) (Chicago lend best-of-sev-ni series 1-01. WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS (Vienna) Sent-Oracl Czech Republic 5 United States C: Crach Republic 5 United States ().

Rugby League

Ray Ashton, Bramley's player-coach, was yesterday suspended from playing for six weeks after being found guilty by a sub-committee of the Rugby Football League's board of directors of binning the game into disrepute. Ashton verbally abused Peter Climore, the Workington referee, at the end of Bramley's 26-6 defeat in a Second Division game at Carliste on 21 April. Garry Schulper, Westington's AUS-Garry Schubert, Workington's Australian-born forward, has been appointed coach of Second Division Representations.

Worldington have a vacancy on their overseas quota after Lafaete Filipo, ther 30-year-old prop forward, was con-firmed as holding a Samoan passport and will count as an emerging nations player. Rugby Union

Simon Shaw, the England A lock, will play his first senior game for fixe months when he turns out for Bristol at West Hardepool in the last Courage League game of the season tomorrow. Shaw sustained a career-threatening and the insurance Bristol Infland Transpare. ke injury when Bristol played Transvaal in November.

APP TOURNAMENT (Manich) Singles, quarter-finals: T Musice (Aut) of M Philippoisses (Aus) 6-3 0-8 6-2 C Maye (Sep Int G Namisses (Aus) 6-6-4; B Boder (Gel) 10 B Astrophen (Ger) 7-8 7-6; S Dosedel (Cz Rep) bt H Gurry (Ary) 6-1 6-3. ty S poseon of sept or Harmy (Art) 6-16-3. ARTH CHALLENGE (Although Meers subject, sec-and record: R Nameberg (U.S.) bit D Virteston (U.S.) 6-48-2; V Spacker (U.S.) bit D Virteston (U.S.) 6-48-2; V Spacker (U.S.) bit S Draper (U.R.) 6-3 7-6; B Sherron (U.S.) bit D Council (Fr) 6-3 6-1. 7-6: 8 Sheton (US) N. O. Courcol (Fr) 6-3: 6-1.
WOMEN'S CLAY COURT TOWNWARDIT (Flamping) Quarter-fluids: TO Worker (Sp) bt. R.
Desgone (fluid 6-4: 6-2: M Pacce (Fr) bt. R.
Desgone (fluid 6-4: 6-2: M Pacce (Fr) bt. M Pacce
tion (Sp) 6-4: 6-2: J. Polaria-Decays (Fr) bt. 8
Schulz-McCarthy (Neth) 6-0: 6-1.
LTA SPRING SATELLITE (Platfisher) Neur's singles, quarter-fluids: I Delgado (GB) bt. A Du Pac(Fr) 6-3: 6-1: P Naterry (Auch) bt. P Pale (Cr. Reu)
6-3: 6-0: A Rechardson (GB) bt. D Spream (Sp)
4-6: 6-3: 6-4: T Schusseing (Auch) bt. P Hand (RS)
6-2: 0-0. Wolmen's serie-fluids: J. Stock, 15-4) bt.
1. Woodroffe (GB) 6-0: 6-3: J. Stock, 15-4) bt.
1. Woodroffe (GB) 6-0: 6-3: J. Stock, 15-4) bt.
Belders (Cr. Rep) 7-6: 2-6: 6-1.

GOODERS OPEN (Program) Quarter-Visible Y Reletingor (Rus) of J Sanchez (So) 6-1-6-1; C Ruad (Non) of O Vocek (C2 Red) 6-1-6-3; E Sanchez (So) of A Martin (Sp) 6-0-6-3.



United face the Captain Marvel factor

GUY HODGSON

An alarming vision has been disturbing Manchester United supporters since it became clear the championship could be decided on the season's final day tomorrow. They see a mud-spattered figure charging into the area, determination dripping from every pore, to head the

The figure is Bryan Robson, and the thought of Old Trafinto Corporal Punishment has been enough to give United supporters anxiety attacks. The Middlesbrough player-manager, too, in all probability, because he is an invidious position.

The chances of Robson taking the field tomorrow are slight -the prospect of becoming a latter-day Denis Law is too awful but he would probably prefer if the club he is most associated with could win the title almost anywhere else, if Middlesbrough win, he could be denying old friends a prize, lose limply and the mutterings from Newcastle about collusion will begin.

Which is hard on Middlesbrough who have played since Christmas like they could lose to United syouth team, never mind the champions elect. In their last League eight matches at the Riverside, they have won only once and as that was against the Premiership's current whipping boys. Sheffield Wednesday.

Given usual circumstances you would expect United to get the win they need, but the conditions are far from normal and they might well be clinging on to a point by tomorrow evening while hoping Newcastle do not get the six goals they need against Tottenham at St James' Park to deny them on goal difference.

ters from United supporters this season wishing me well," Robson, who still lives in the Manchester area, said. "I wouldn't like to lose them as fans but we have 27,000 season tickets to try to entertain. I can assure everyone my players will be determined to do their best."

Words that will soothe a few battered souls on Tyneside who are enlarging straws to the size from every pore, to head the goal that denies United a third Premiership title in four years.

of planks as they clutch for something to forget they once had a 12-point lead. "I think the way we performed showed we have the ability to win the title," ford's Captain Marvel turning Kevin Keegan, their manager, said after Thursday's 1-1 draw against Nottingham Forest virtually buried their hopes, "but it's not how we play now, it's how the table looks."

Little has gone right for Newcastle in their run-in and even the choise of opponent tomorrow could be better as Tottenham require a win to help their Uefa Cup aspirations. A defeat for both championship contenders, and an anti-climactic conclusion, is not out of the question.

When it comes to disappoint-ing finishes, however, Sheffield Wednesday, are becoming masters. Six years ago they appeared on the blind side of everyone and managed to snatch relegation on the line and this year they making a pretty fine job a staging a repeat, matching their 1990 run of four points in six games going into their final game.

If they lose tomorrow and Southampton, Coventry and Manchester City win, Wednesday are relegated. "I've had sleepless nights," David Pleat, their manager said. "We have to assume that the other teams below us will win. We have to believe that otherwise our attitude may be wrong. We're ready for the weekend of decision.

So are Manchester City, whose weekend could be made complete by neighbours United

winning the championship while they are relegated. They face Liv-erpool at Maine Road knowing they have to do better than their relegation rivals because goal difference could condemn them.

The City manager, Alan Ball, is looking for a similar performance to the 1-0 win at Aston Villa last weekend. "I asked them to sweat blood that day and they did," he said. "If we do the same again we will have no fears against Liverpool." A repeat of the victory last Easter that eased their relegation problems last season would do nicely.

Should City prevail fans of Southampton could be watching the last performance for the club by Matt Le Tissier, who has said he will leave if they are relegated. They face Wimbledon, who are underdogs with sharp teeth but more supine when it comes to teams of level rank.

Coventry showed that last week when they won 2-0 at Selhurst Park. Seasoned escapologists, if they could have chosen their opponents tomorrow they would probably have plumped for Leeds who have had six successive defeats - their worst run since 1948 - and have collected

33 out of their last 102 points. This in the ninth time in the 29 seasons Coventry have been in the top flight that their survival has depended on the final match and every time they have been successful. The one black omen is their manager, Ron Atkinson, who presided over Sheffield Wednesday's fall in 1990.

As an interesting footnote to Wednesday's black day, Middlesbrough saved themselves from relegation to the old Third Division with a 4-1 victory on their old ground, Ayresome Park. Their opponents on that occasion were Newcastle.

The championship's 10 vital games, page 26 United's seats of yearning, page 8 Fan's early release, page 4



It could be you: Glenn Hoddle (left), preparing his Chelsea players yesterday for their last game under his reign as manag Blackburn tomorrow, picks out the Dutchman Ruud Guilit, who could become his successor at Stamford Bridge Photograph

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

lost for words? Turn to the Franklin Bookman" Dictionary and Thesaures. To order Franklin products, rang 01252 861500. No. 2978. Saturday 4 May

ACROSS
1 Cave could yield such a

camp spot (10) 8 Rough ein, one in hard stuff, is virulent (9)

9 Play from one on the wing 10 Constable's unfinished

work? (6)

11 Faint and fall short in contest (8) 13 College outside American

station (b) 14 imp without name, right -

one on the run? (8)

issue (b)

17 Manufacture of river tackle 3 (8) 19 Points brought to a head in

21 The man's height, I see, is noteworthy (8) 23 Having a dreary track record, perhaps (2,1,3)

25 Starch slip and second of collars (4) 26 Article on Poe run off soon

27 For Channel 4, 'c's prolific acting (9) 16 There could be many a

Astute in manner, set up cordial right away (9)
Male worker's quit firm (4) Animal, creature East European raised (8) Sort of acid enmity's re-

Eject, showing the gate (7) To deprive of bread about done is teasing (10) Short man's bluffs (6) 12 Resin enclosed, one

stocked by painter no end 15 Not heartfelt, cine siren's

brush with this type (8) 18 I spread awful gloom (7)

about British game (6) 22 There's nothing, nothing 24 That's the spirit, climbing in Derbyshire peaks (4)

Make the longest word you can from GLENNITHE Yesterlay's Scramble: REMINURSE Win a Franklin Bookman Dictionary and Thesaurus worth £100

The first correct solution to this week's puzzle opened next Thursday win a Franklin Bookman Dictionary and Thesaurus worth £100. Answers and the winner's name will be published next Saturday. Send solutions to Saturday Crossword, P. O. Box 4018. The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E145BL. Please use the box number and postcode and give your own postcode. Last week's winner was: Mrs J Gibson, Morpeth, Northumberland

Gullit interested in Chelsea job

Rund Gullit yesterday opened the way for Chelsea to appoint him as Glenn Hoddle's successor at Stamford Bridge.
The move would clearly win

the approval of the new Eng-land coach, who stressed that "continuity" is all important as he prepared for an emotional farewell at home to Blackburn tomorrow. Chelsea's hierarchy meet before that game to discuss their options.

ficially, but because of all the ru- training ground, spoke at some

mours you are thinking about length about his new job with how you would do it." Gullit said England. "I don't want to get yesterday. "I would need to like to change. There are so many things to think about, but

too involved with what is going talk to them about how things to happen with England at the would be run, what would you moment," he said. "It's not fair the job hasn't been offered yet."

about it. I was honoured by the

"It is wise to consider it now because everyone is talking

way the fans reacted and also the way the players reacted."

to Terry [Venables]; he's got a massive job on his hands and he doesn't want a side circus. Til be stepping into the back-ground and looking at Moldova, Georgia and Poland. I already have the fixtures and have got something set in my

The final hurdle

With the Premiership season set for a thilling hish tomorniw, Glenn Moore re-ports on Manchester Unit-

ed's visit to Middlesbrough

rom the all the other Pe-mieship games and the decisive matches in the Bedstelgh First Division. Nen Jones on what has been a mannorable year and That Was The Season that Was, out attentione gattle to the tast nine months

here [at Cheisea] from schoolboys right through, I want to underpin that a little bit [with England]. "I'm sure Terry has done that anyway, but I really want to look Jean-Marc Bosman, whose le-

Whatever anyone says, it's a some don't and I've had the place in Paris on 14 May.

positive. But it's very important that Terry gets on with having a successful summer and that will

at the Under-21s and Under-18s. gal fight against Uefa changed (**)
The FA have been good enough the face of European football, is to give me a four-year contract and it is worth looking at that and bringing things through. to sue the sport's world govern-ing body, Fifa, for not sanction-ing a benefit match for him. Eric bringing things through.

"The opportunity has come Cantona and Diego Maradona even quicker than I ever thought it would. Some people set them, play in the match, due to take

Brittle kept in place by RFU

STEVE BALE

The notion, widespread yesterday morning, that the Rugby Football Union was about to reach a settlement of its dispute with England's leading clubs turned to dust last night when the RFU committee balked at moving against the chairman of

its executive, Cliff Brittle. Some members had been considering seeking Brittle's re-moval as chairman of the RFU's negotiators after his refusal to meet representatives of English Professional Rugby Union Clubs on Wednesday. In the event the challenge was never mounted and instead the committee expressed the hope that Britie, Bill Bishop, the RFU president, and Donald Kerr, chairman of Epruc, would swiftly meet again to resolve who controls profes-

sional club rugby and who takes the money from it. What progress there has been occurred in Brittle's absence on Wednesday, when Bishop, having been appointed by the ex-ecutive against Brittle's wishes as independent chairman of the union/club negotiations, decided to proceed without him. By Wednesday night Bishop was ex-uding optimism that a settlement

was in reach. Instead, there was a contra dictory statement from the RFU last night which both extolled Bishop for effectively going behind Brittle's back and explicitly left Brittle in place. "The Rugby Football Union committee congratulated the president on the progress made in his discussions with Epruc, in particular the continued confirmation that the senior clubs wished to remain in

the RFU." it said. "The committee agreed with the president that a further meeting should be held as soon as possible under his independent chairmanship, with Cliff Brittle and Donald Kerr as leaders of the RFU and Epruc negotiating teams respectively, in order to bring the detail of these negoti-

ations to a speedy conclusion."

Bishop yesterday denied a report that Brittle's supporters Hallett, the RFU secretary, sacked. Brittle did recently ask Hallett for details of his contract, as well as that of Michael Humphreys, the RFU's media adviser - scarcely a chairman's vote of confidence.

Cup final previews, page 23

Esports section

and Phil Shair reports from St James Park as Newcas-tie United take on Totten ham Hotspur. Pips reports from the all the other Pre-

The Monday interview
To one force the artice drug, no one male the drink and gamble. I had elevating to a loosy with the drink and gamble. The research of the drug to the loosy to the loo

key events, including: Steve Bale and Tim Glover at rugby union's two big cup finals David Tremayne at the San Marino Grand Prix

Best of the action

On a major weekend of

sport, reports from all the

Richard Edmondson at Newmarket for the 1,000 and 2.000 Guineas Derek Pringle at Arundel for the Indian cricketers' traditional curtain-raiser

John Roberts at Newcastle for the Davis Cup Guy Hodgson at the World nocker Championship in

is tomorrow's independent on Sunday

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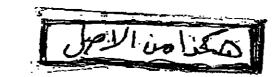
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